

Somalia announces date for elections

MOGADISHU (R) — Somalia will hold multi-party elections next February in line with a pledge by President Mohamed Siad Barre last year to carry out political reforms, Mogadishu Radio said Monday. The radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said a cabinet meeting last Thursday decided to hold a referendum on a new constitution next Oct. 31. This would be followed by parliamentary and local elections involving different political parties on Feb. 1, 1991, the radio said. Siad Barre, in power since a coup in 1969, announced last year he would legalize opposition parties and hold free elections. But until Monday's announcement, the constitution had not been amended to change the single party state, and no date had been fixed for a poll. The radio said the cabinet meeting last Thursday endorsed the "implementation of the democratisation of the country's political system."

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King cables sympathy to Aquino

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday sent a cable to Philippine President Corason Aquino condoling her over the death and injury of over 70 people in an earthquake which hit the Philippines. King Hussein voiced his deep sorrow over the tragic event (see page 8).

Indian crisis ends

NEW DELHI (R) — The son of Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal agreed Monday to quit as chief minister of northern Haryana state, defusing a crisis in the Indian government. But Om Prakash Chautala, the eldest son of 75-year-old peasant leader Devi Lal, will keep his post as general secretary of the ruling Janata Dal, party president S.R. Bommai told reporters after a day of hectic meetings (see page 8).

Iraqi parliament discusses constitution

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq's parliament Monday began debating a draft constitution that would legalise more political parties and extend press freedom. The Iraqi News Agency quoted Parliament Speaker Saadi Mahdi Saleh as saying the draft aimed to "organise the life of the Iraqis on a clear democratic basis." The document was drawn up by the Revolutionary Command Council led by President Saddam Hussein and by leaders of the ruling Baath Party.

Egypt says arson suspect deranged

CAIRO (R) — An Egyptian painter accused of setting fire to a Red Sea hotel and killing two European tourists is deranged, an Egyptian official said Monday. Preliminary investigations showed the man was not acting on behalf of any organisation trying to harm Egypt's tourist industry or security, Assistant Interior Minister General Fakhredin Khaled told Egypt's Middle East News Agency. Khaled said the 25-year-old painter "acted out of madness." Security sources Sunday said the man, from Dikrini in the Nile governorate of Daqahliya, had been disgusted at what he considered the obscene behaviour and skimpy dress of foreigners.

Iran paper criticises West

TEHRAN (R) — The West's failure to press for the release of Iranian hostages in Lebanon and Arabs jailed by Israel will stonewall efforts by Tehran and Damascus to win the freedom of Western hostages in Lebanon, an Iranian newspaper said Monday. The hardline Kayhan International said reports first issued by Iran's official news agency IRNA nine days ago that a Western captive would soon be freed showed that Iran seriously wanted to end the hostage problem. But, the English-language paper said, the West had done nothing to reciprocate Iran's goodwill since two American hostages were freed by their Lebanese captors in April. "The hostage problem is a two-way street," it said, adding that if Washington and London continued their present policy they "will eventually stagnate the joint efforts of Tehran and Damascus for release of the rest of the Western hostages, especially those of British and American nationalities."

Arab envoy begins talks in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Arab League envoy Lakhdar Brahimi began talks with Lebanese leaders in Beirut Monday in a renewed attempt to end the country's 15-year civil war. Official sources said Brahimi, who arrived from Saudi Arabia in a private plane, met President Elias Hrawi, Prime Minister Salim Hoss and House Speaker Hussein Huscini in west Beirut. He then crossed the green line dividing the Lebanese capital and conferred with General Michel Aoun at his headquarters in the suburb of Baabda.

Export/import policy and investment drive bearing economic fruits, premier says

U.S. still holds key to peace — Badran

KUWAIT (Agencies) — The American administration continues to uphold certain principles which Jordan considers positive and this prompts the Kingdom to carefully watch the game of tug-of-war between Washington and Israel, Prime Minister Mudar Badran was quoted as saying in a newspaper interview published Monday.

Contacts made by His Majesty King Hussein and President George Bush revealed that the United States is still keen on achieving a just solution and upholds the non-admissibility of acquiring other people's lands by force, the prime minister said in an interview with the Al Siyassah newspaper of Kuwait.

"However, Jordan considers the Palestine issue as its main concern and strives to help the Palestinians regain their legitimate rights in their homeland," Badran said.

Jordan will adhere to its national policy and will never compromise one inch of Jerusalem or any other part of Palestinian land no matter how heavy the burdens are, Badran added.

"We decided to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank to enable the Palestinians to shoulder their own responsibility and negotiate for their right to self-determination, and we are not going back on that decision," he said.

"It should be emphasised that the United States, which is linked in an alliance with Israel, holds the key to peace in the region because it is the source of Israel's military and economic power, and it remains to be seen whether the United States is serious about its intention of putting an end to Israel's intransigence," Badran said.

For the time being, he said, Jordan can only rely on its solidarity with the rest of the Arab World and seek help from the European nations to find a solution to the problem through an international peace conference.

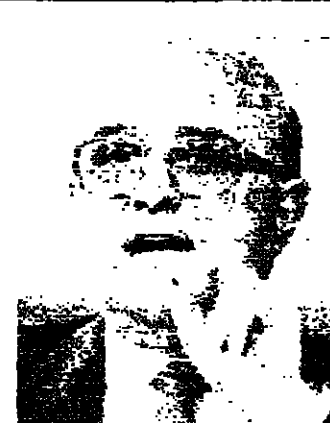
However, Jordan will not remain

idle if attacked and the Kingdom can never fall an easy prey to the Israeli conspiracies, he warned. "Jordan has all the right to seek training for its armed forces in conjunction with Iraq unhampered by reports in the Western press because we are well aware of our own national interests," Badran added.

"Jordan, which guards the longest confrontation line with the Israeli enemy, deserves support and assistance from its Arab sister states to enhance its steadfastness and remain a staunch fortress in the face of aggression," Badran said.

"This country," he said, "has been facing conspiracies and pressures over the past five decades but it will maintain its steadfastness with all its might, denying the invaders the fulfilment of their dream of creating what is called 'greater Israel'."

Turning to domestic issues the prime minister said the Kingdom is maintaining a policy of increasing exports and minimising imports. In the first five months of 1990 the Kingdom succeeded in increasing its



Mudar Badran

exports by 36 per cent and keeping down imports at the rate of three per cent, he said.

But, he added, Jordan is committed to strengthen its armed forces and to honour its financial commitments and pay its foreign debts. "To achieve this, Jordan is moving closer to its Arab states militarily, economically, socially, culturally and politically. This policy has helped Jordan to stabilise the dinar thanks to financial assistance from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Iraq and the United Arab Emirates and also thanks to Jordanian expatriates who have started to transfer funds to Jordan in hard currency and in additional amounts."

The prime minister said the Kingdom had been setting up export-oriented industrial projects at the Sabab Industrial Estate.

(Continued on page 3)

Ukraine declares sovereignty

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Soviet Ukraine declared sovereignty Monday, saying it planned to become a neutral state with the right to raise its own army and introduce a separate currency.

The Ukraine is the second largest of the Soviet Union's 15 constituent republics after the Russian Federation. Its parliament passed a declaration on sovereignty by 355 votes to four, the official TASS news agency reported, following similar moves by the federation and other republics.

The declaration said Ukrainian laws took precedence over Soviet legislation. But TASS said a majority of deputies argued that the Ukraine, along with the Russian Federation — the powerhouse of the Soviet economy — should not leave the Soviet Union.

"The declaration states the right of the Ukraine to have its own armed forces, internal forces and security service... to become in the future a neutral state not participating in military blocs," TASS quoted the document as saying.

The Ukraine is the latest in a series of republics to adopt sovereignty declarations, apparently in preparations for Kremlin talks on a new treaty to restructure the union of the 15 Soviet socialist republics which gives the Soviet Union its formal name.

In addition to the Russian federation, led by radical President Boris Yeltsin who quit the Communist Party last week, and the three Baltic states — Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia — which want to leave the union altogether, Moldova and Uzbekistan have previously approved sovereignty declarations.

But the Ukrainian resolution, in raising the possibility of separate armed forces and steps to neutrality, appeared to go further than all but the Baltic declarations.

President Mikhail Gorbachev, who also faces separatist violence in the southern republic of Armenia, told republic leaders last month he planned a new treaty which would allow them to name their own terms for membership of the union.

Karabakh violence

An airport manager in the ethnically troubled region of Nagorno-Karabakh has been killed in a bomb explosion that destroyed her home, TASS said Monday.

The manager's son and husband were reported injured in the blast.

In the central Asian republic of Kirghizia, at least 30 people were injured in renewed ethnic fighting over the weekend, TASS reported.

Arabs to boycott companies helping Jewish immigration

TUNIS (Agencies) — Arab states have decided to boycott companies and other institutions which help Jews migrate to Israel. Arab foreign ministers meeting in Tunis said in a statement Monday the influx of Jews posed "a very grave threat to national security, to the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and to peace efforts."

"(The ministers) decided to... take decisive measures on all levels towards the agencies, institutions and authorities which provide facilities for Jewish immigration, especially transport and financial assistance," it said.

"They also entrusted the (Damascus-based Arab) Boycott Office with the task of applying boycott laws to these agencies, institutions and authorities," it added.

More than 50,000 Soviet Jews have emigrated to Israel this year. The

total is expected to reach well over 100,000 by the end of the year.

Arab diplomats said the boycott was directed at commercial companies and non-governmental institutions, not at states which allow migrating Jews to cross their territory.

The ministers, who held a two-day emergency meeting at the request of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said their countries were willing to pay the expenses of Jews who wished to return to Arab countries they left years ago.

Diplomats said Egypt resisted this proposal, arguing that it was already overcrowded and did not need new citizens.

The ministers said they stood behind the PLO position on U.S. conditions for resuming the PLO-American dialogue.

Arab states would try to persuade Washington to resume the dialogue with the PLO "on new foundations

which guarantee that it deals with the essential issues and serves the peace process," the statement said.

The Arab states deplored alleged U.S. threats to use force against Libya and the extension by the U.S. administration of economic boycott measures against Tripoli, it added.

Washington imposed the boycott in 1986 on the grounds that Libya had abetted acts of violence by Middle East extremists and the measures were renewed for six months of July 13.

PLO Ambassador to Tunisia Hakam Balawi told reporters the Arabs would contact governments which allow Soviet Jews to cross their territory and put the Arab point of view to them.

They would ask countries like Canada, Australia and Argentina to take in more Soviet Jews so that fewer of them felt they had to migrate to Israel, he added.

Iraq releases British nurse

LONDON (Agencies) — Iraq has released a British nurse who was jailed as an accomplice of a journalist executed as a spy, the Foreign Office said Monday.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, responding to overtures from President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, released Daphne Parish for humanitarian reasons, the Foreign Office said.

"I hope it is part of a move to put relations with Britain back onto a more even keel," Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave said in an interview on BBC television.

Relations between Britain and Iraq have been strained, most recently by seizures in Britain of parts for nuclear bomb triggers and parts of an alleged "super gun" bound for Iraq.

Parish was put on a private jet bound for Lusaka, Zambia, said a Foreign Office spokesman.

She said her treatment in prison had been good, the spokesman said. Parish, 33, was sentenced to 15 years in prison for allegedly assisting Farhad Bazoff, who was hanged March 15 in Baghdad.

Bazoff had been in Iraq working for the Observer, a Sunday newspaper published in London. He was arrested after visiting the site of an explosion in an Iraqi military plant.

Parish, a senior nursing officer at the Ben Ali Biter Hospital in Baghdad, was accused of driving Bazoff to the military complex 65 kilometres south of the capital.

The Iraqi government confirmed on Aug. 17 that there had been an explosion, and said that 19 people had died.

Following Bazoff's execution, Britain recalled its ambassador from Iraq and expelled six Iraqi military

trainees in protest. British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd also announced a freeze on visits by government ministers to Iraq and cancelled a trade mission.

However, Hurd rejected trade sanctions against Iraq. Relations between the two countries were further strained in late March when British customs officers seized 40 alleged components for nuclear bomb triggers at Heathrow airport. The parts were supposed to be put aboard an Iraqi Airways flight to Baghdad.

In April, customs officers seized massive steel tubing which had been ordered by Iraq. British authorities said the tubing appeared to be designed for a massive artillery gun.

"Through the recent difficulties with Iraq, our desire has been open and honest dialogue," the Foreign Office said Monday.

Bazoff appeared on Iraqi Television shortly before his trial and confessed to spying for Israel and British intelligence.

Iraq said Bazoff disguised himself as a doctor and had Parish, dressed in her nurse's uniform, drive him to the military installation southwest of Baghdad in an ambulance.

The British Foreign Office said then that one of the reasons Britain did not break relations with Iraq over the hanging was to protect the interests of Parish.

Parish was released less than a week after an Iraqi-born Swedish national was executed in Iraq on charges of spying for Israel. Jalel Mehdi Al Neamy was hanged in Baghdad Wednesday, the Swedish Foreign Ministry said.

One Briton is still jailed in Iraq. Businessman Ian Richter was sentenced to life in prison almost three years ago after being convicted of bribery.

Human rights group assails Israeli army

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — An Israeli human rights group Monday accused soldiers of an "itchy trigger finger" in dealing with the Palestinian uprising and said unclear firing orders resulted in many unnecessary deaths.

According to figures compiled by the Associated Press, 723 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli soldiers or civilians during the 31-month uprising.

An additional 236 Palestinians have been killed by unknown assailants, most on suspicion of collaboration with the Israeli occupation authorities. Forty-five Israelis have died in the violence.

The 60-page Betsaleem report noted that shootings by soldiers accounted "for the overwhelming majority" of fatalities. It said there were "hundreds of cases in which death could have been averted."

The report blamed unclear firing regulations that have led to "a tangle of interpretations" on when and how weapons can be used.

"The facts evoke an image of an itchy trigger finger, a lax observance of regulations, the absence of exhaustive investigations and a failure to mete out deterring and educational punishment," the Betsaleem report said.

It added that these suggest that "legitimacy is conferred on unjustified firing and violation of the law."

The report was especially cri-

tical of the army's handling of Palestinian demonstrations, in which most of the deaths have occurred.

Army orders require soldiers to fire at a demonstrator's legs and to shoot to kill only if the soldier's life is threatened.

The report noted that just nine soldiers have been killed during the uprising, only one of them during a protest.

"These figures show that no direct correlation exists between the intensity of the danger to life and the circumstances in which soldiers may open fire," the report said.

It also criticised the army's use of plastic bullets for punishment and deterrence, saying this was "an extremely grave and wholly improper usage."

Betsaleem said that since they were introduced by the army, at least 128 Palestinians have been killed with plastic ammunition.

Betsaleem said that only two soldiers have been tried for manslaughter during the uprising.

The organisation, also known as the Israeli Information Centre for Human Rights on the occupied territories, was founded by liberal Israeli legislators, academics and lawyers to investigate human rights problems in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Its findings have been widely cited by international groups, including the London-based Amnesty International organisation.

Bank hold-up suspects arrested; money recovered

By Ahmad Kreishan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Police Monday arrested two suspects in a daylight hold-up at a bank in the Marka area of the capital and recovered the stolen money, said to be around JD 10,000, the head of Amman police said.

The two suspects — one a Spanish national and the other a Spanish citizen of Jordanian origin — were nabbed in less than 24 hours after the robbery at the Grindlays Bank branch at Marka, Brigadier Ghaleb Al Zoubi said.

According to a police reconstruction of the event, the hold-up was carried out around noon when a man armed with a gun rushed into the bank, pointed the weapon at a bank official with a death threat unless money was handed over in a bag.

None of the other employees dared to move during the hold-up, which took only a few minutes, according to police. The hold-up man, who was wearing dark glasses, then rushed outside with the cash in a bag and sped away in a waiting car driven by an accomplice, police said.

The stolen money included 6,495 Jordanian dinars, 395 sterling pound and 4,569 American dollars, police said.

Police was informed of the robbery immediately. Witnesses were able to provide a description of the hold-up man, and an all-point bulletin went out with the description, Zoubi said.

According to Zoubi, who took over as police chief of the capital last month after serving as head of the Anti-Narcotics Bureau for several years, police were able to track down the suspects after linking the description with earlier information that robberies were being planned.

The two were arrested Monday noon after a thorough search of places they used to frequent, Zoubi said.

It was one of the rare cases of hold-ups in Amman. The last major case occurred in 1986 when a young moneychanger was shot dead in the Jabal Hussein area of Amman by a lone gunman who fled with about JD 85,000 in various currencies. The man was subsequently arrested and sentenced to death.

Opening Soon
NAPOLI PIZZA

Wave of Ethiopian Jews to Israel said suspended

TEL AVIV (R) — The secrecy-shrouded influx of Ethiopian Jews to Israel has come to an abrupt halt, an immigration official said Monday.

They said some 11,000 black Jews had left war-torn areas of Ethiopia and were waiting in the capital, Addis Ababa, for permits to leave. Living conditions were precarious and disease was rampant.

"In the last three weeks no Jews have arrived from Ethiopia," Rahamin Elazar, secretary of Israel's Ethiopian organisation, told Reuters Monday.

"We are in a state of shock. The fact is nobody is coming. All this hope is shattered," Elazar said, adding that the community would demonstrate for government action.

Israeli military censors made delegations from this report.

Israeli foreign ministry officials said immigration was continuing normally.

"Israel does not have a policy to slow down intentionally the immigration of Ethiopian Jews. Immigration is continuing normally," spokesman Moti Amihai told Reuters.

But Elazar and an Israeli immigration official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said until the halt black Jews had been arriving over the past months under a "family reunification" agreement.

The programme was suspended by Ethiopian

President Mengistu Haile Mariam whose leadership is threatened by advancing rebels, they said. Israel reestablished ties with Ethiopia last October after a 16-year break.

Foreign press reports said Ethiopia was seeking to barter Jews for Israeli weapons. They said Mengistu had visited Israel on his quest for aid two weeks ago but Israeli officials denied the visit ever occurred.

A Sunday report in the New York Times said Ethiopia and Israel agreed several weeks ago to suspend exit permits. It quoted Israeli ambassador to Ethiopia, Meir Joffe, as saying Israel wished to scrutinise application after it had realised not all applicants were Jewish.

"There are awful bureaucratic hardships, people who have no identity, no listing. They come from areas that are hundreds of kilometres away from Addis Ababa," Reaven Merhav, director general of the foreign ministry, told army radio.

"The Ethiopians don't want people to leave them at all. That has always been their policy. They believe... their people must stay there... and in this framework we must see it," he said.

Some 20,000 Ethiopian Jews have arrived in Israel since 1984 when it launched an operation to ferry the black Jews to the Jewish state. Some 16,000 are still in Ethiopia.

Elazar said the board of the Ethiopian organisation had requested a meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir but had not received a reply.

Abu Abbas said to torpedo plan to revive U.S. dialogue

NICOSIA (AP) — Hardline Palestinian leader Mohammad Abbas (Abu Abbas) has torpedoed a Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) plan aimed at reviving the dialogue with the United States, suspended last month after an abortive seaborne raid on Israel by his guerrillas, senior PLO sources said Monday.

The officials, speaking by telephone from Tunis on condition of anonymity, said that under a compromise proposed by Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid, Abu Abbas would resign from the PLO's Executive Committee.

Washington would then resume the dialogue with the PLO through Ambassador Robert Pelletreau in Tunis, and within a few weeks elevate the level of contacts, the sources said.

But Abu Abbas, leader of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), one of nine guerrilla factions in the PLO under Chairman Yasser Arafat, rejected the proposal, the sources said.

"The chairman's in a corner," a senior PLO official said by telephone. "If the acts against Abu Abbas he'll appear to be bowing to America and incense the radicals in the movement even further."

"If he doesn't, the dialogue will remain severed," he added. U.S. President George Bush suspended the 18-month-old dialogue June 20 after Arafat made no apparent move to punish Abu Abbas as Washington demanded.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said June 23 that his government was trying to mediate a resumption of the dialogue. Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources confirmed that the effort is still under way.

According to sources quoted by the AP, Abu Abbas was to

have submitted his resignation at a meeting of the PLO's Central Council scheduled for July 18 in Baghdad. When he refused to do so at the weekend, the PLO postponed the meeting.

Azzam Ahmad, the PLO's representative in Iraq, said the delay was to allow more consultations on the two key issues to be discussed, the suspended dialogue and the formation of a hardline government in Israel under Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

The PLF's chief spokesman in Baghdad, where Abu Abbas has his main offices, said when asked if his leader planned to resign: "This is a baseless report."

"It's a fabricated story by the United States and its cronies," Hussein Al Abid told the Associated Press in Baghdad.

In a series of interviews with the New York Times in Tunis, PLO officials said they would be prepared to "handle Abu Abbas," but not until the U.S. administration committed itself to enlarging the scale and scope of the dialogue.

"To be very frank, we can sell Abu Abbas," said a senior PLO official who was not identified by the Times. He, and others interviewed, used epithets when referring to the PLF leader. The PLO officials were virtually unanimous in saying Abu Abbas's punishment and expulsion from the organisation would not be a problem in and of itself.

"We want a real dialogue, not a mailbox to send questions and wait for answers," said Yasser Abed Rabbo, the chief PLO delegate to the talks in Tunis.

"It is a process that allows us to go to Washington, to see people in the Congress, in the media and help us clarify our positions to the American people," Abed Rabbo

told the Times.

In Washington, U.S. State Department deputy spokesman Richard Boucher refused to comment directly when asked whether there were any contacts being carried out with the PLO through third parties such as Egypt, as had been reported in recent weeks.

"I'm not going to get into any discussions we have," said Boucher.

"We think that the most effective way for the PLO to communicate is through its actions." "The PLO is aware of the requirements for the resumption of the dialogue, which were spelled out by the president clearly in his June 20th statement," he added.

Palestinian leaders told the Times they were racing through meetings to arrive at a "proper formula" to satisfy the U.S. demands and their own need to control Palestinian groups such as the PLF.

"Every time we make some progress," said a PLO official, Abu Abbas "does something that sets us back a year and we have to start all over again."

However, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat told Arab foreign ministers the PLO will never accept U.S. conditions for resuming the dialogue, Arab diplomats were quoted as saying by Reuters.

Arafat told the ministers in Tunis the Palestinian people had their dignity and would not surrender to Washington after more than two decades of struggle, they said.

"It's not in question for the PLO to bend itself to these conditions," participants quoted Arafat as saying about the American conditions.

16 killed in Lebanon battles

NABATIYEH, Lebanon, (Agencies) — Fires raged out of control and scores of families fled their homes when rival Shi'ite Muslim militias battled for a strategic village in South Lebanon Monday, security sources said.

At least 16 people were killed and 50 wounded in close-quarter fighting between the pro-Iranian Hizbollah and Syrian-backed Amal for the village of Jarjouch. Casualties were expected to rise.

"Shells continue to fall at a rate of one every five seconds and a huge black cloud is hanging above Jarjouch," said an eyewitness in a nearby village.

"The situation inside Jarjouch is still not clear but the number of casualties is high and devastation seems extensive."

He said an intense bombardment stopped ambulances entering the village and injured were lying unattended in the streets.

Artillery and rocket fire spilled

over to 10 other villages in the mountainous Iqlim Al Touthah region, 40 kilometres south of Beirut, scene of savage battles between the factions in December. Hundreds of people sheltered in fortified bunkers.

Security sources said four of the dead were from Hizbollah and four from Amal. Hospitals in the south appealed for blood.

Each side accused the other of starting the fighting which began soon after dawn and continued unabated for eight hours.

Amal's leadership confirmed the attack in a statement. It said its fighters "crushed the attackers who belonged to the party of Satan."

It admitted to 20 Amal militiamen wounded.

Hizbollah accused Amal earlier of shelling its positions in Jabal Safi, Mita and Luweizeh with artillery and rockets.

Ambulances raced in and out the Iqlim, ferrying victims to hos-

pitals in Sidon. The mountainous region overlooks Sidon, provincial capital of South Lebanon, from the southeast.

Also in South Lebanon, militiamen of the Nasserite organisation clashed with the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) in Kfar Falous to the east of Sidon.

Hizbollah — trained, financed and equipped by Tehran — calls for jihad (holy war) to liberate Israel's self-declared "security zone" in the south. The movement wants to make Lebanon an Iranian-style Islamic republic.

The more secular Amal wants to reform the country's Christian-dominated political system to give the Muslim majority an equal share of power.

It says liberation of the south should be achieved through a joint resistance movement and through working to implement U.N. resolutions calling for Israeli withdrawal.

Israeli panel okays new housing plan

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's ministerial immigration committee has approved an emergency plan to house Soviet immigrants in hotels, youth hostels and sanatoriums, officials said.

"The committee's chairman and housing minister, Ariel Sharon, said the new plan comes to ease the current housing crisis in Israel."

"I brought this proposal... in order to block the skyrocketing housing prices and to stop the young couples, Israelis, from being thrown out of the apartment they live in," Sharon said on Israel Army radio last Sunday.

Rents have doubled and even tripled throughout Israel with the arrival of Soviet immigrant wave, which has totalled more than 63,000 since 1989. It is expected to reach a total of 150,000 this year.

Many Israelis have been forced out of their rented homes by the inflated housing prices, and some have taken to living in tents so as to enforce demands for housing solutions.

According to government figures, the country's 20,000 available rental apartments will be filled up by the end of September.

The government has approved an emergency plan to import 3,000 prefabricated houses.

It also plans 48,000 new housing units in 1990 and expects to break ground for 16,000 units within the next weeks. But in the interim period between October 1990 and December 1991, when the first new apartments become available, it will need some 100,000 housing solutions.

Jaffa Arabs protest plan to bring in Soviets

TEL AVIV — Arab residents of Jaffa are launching protests to demand the ouster of Mayor Shlomo Lahat, following the revelation that Lahat plans to populate Jaffa with young Jewish couples and new immigrants from the Soviet Union.

In a meeting called Friday by public officials, several Arab organisations — including the Islamic Council, the Orthodox Association, and the Association for Jaffa Arabs — decided to create an umbrella organisation, called the Joint Public Council for the Advancement of the Arab Community in Jaffa.

According to the council spokesman, Mohammad Zevdeh, the group has already sent protest telegrams to President Chaim Herzog, Knesset Speaker Dov Shilansky, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Housing Minister Ariel Sharon, Interior Minister

Aryeh Deri, Lahat, and Eitan Sulami, the head of Amidar, the government public housing company.

"We are not against the settling of immigrants in Jaffa," said Zevdeh, headmaster of the Amal school in Jaffa, "but we don't want it to be at the expense of the Arab and Jewish residents of the city." Zevdeh pointed out that Jewish residents make up 70 per cent of Jaffa's population.

Lahat's plan, which he presented to Ariel Sharon last week, includes the construction of 5,000 apartments, 500 of them in the near future, in rehabilitated areas of Jaffa.

Lahat, in the council meeting Saturday, admitted he may have used the expression, "to judaize," but that it was only done as a manner of speech.

— The Jerusalem Post

Missing plane remains a mystery for Israelis

AMMAN (J.T.) — Investigations have provided no clues to the disappearance of an Israeli reconnaissance plane which went missing with its pilot last Thursday, and Israeli armed forces commanders remained puzzled over the affair, according to a report in the Jerusalem Post Monday.

According to senior military officials quoted by the Post, suicide or defection could not be ruled out.

The Post gave the following account of the incident:

The pilot, who was not identified, reported for reserve duty Thursday and was to have left on a reconnaissance flight early Friday and thus knew which plane had been prepared for take-off.

Dressed in overalls, he aroused no suspicion when he went to the Donier 28 aircraft at a small airport in central Israel. He removed the blocks from the tyres, climbed in, made the last-minute preparations, turned on the engine, and without turning on his lights or contacting the control tower, taxied to the run-way and took off at 4:30 a.m.

Technically, the light aircraft could have made it to Cyprus, Rhodes, or Turkey. But the pilot would have had to obtain those countries' advance permission. He could obtain permission for an emergency landing in Cyprus,

for example, but then the Israeli authorities would have been informed of his arrival. The air force checked with several countries, but apparently did not get any leads. Nor did the civilian authorities report the military plane's arrival, a senior government official told The Post.

A second possibility is that the pilot committed suicide or had an accident and was killed: He took off at night when the sea and the sky appear black and thus merge. Such an accident is especially likely if he flew at a low altitude. Under such circumstances a pilot may lose faith in the equipment which monitors the horizon, think he knows better, and make a nose dive.

In such circumstances some debris may float, but an informed source said that it may take time until some of the plane's pieces rust and break away. Airplanes, helicopters, and navy vessels searched the seas looking for remnants of the aircraft. The navy used its sonar, but to no avail. On Friday and Saturday, planes and helicopters took aerial photographs of Israel, trying to find the debris. On the ground, troops searched wadis and other hidden spots.

An air force team, headed by a reserve brigadier-general, is looking into the matter.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

N. Korean minister ends Iran

NICOSIA (R) — North Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-Nam left Tehran Monday after holding talks with Iranian military and political officials, Iran's IRNA news agency said. Kim, whose country was one of Iran's major suppliers of weapons during its eight-year war with Iraq, described his talks in Tehran as important and useful, IRNA said. "In the course of the imposed war your leader and country sincerely cooperated with us," IRNA quoted President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani as telling Kim Saturday. "We will never forget this friendship." IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, said the minister held separate meeting with Revolutionary Guard commander Mohsen Rezaei and Akbar Tofighan, the defence and armed forces logistics minister, during his three-day visit. It gave no details of the talks. Western military analysts said Iran, facing a Western arms embargo, bought large quantities of weapons including surface-to-surface missiles from North Korea during the Gulf war which was halted by a U.N.-brokered ceasefire in August 1988. Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati described links between Iran and North Korea — as flourishing and said Iran welcomed a North Korean proposal to increase trade, IRNA said. In May Iran and North Korea signed a \$600-million trade agreement for 1990.

AIDS virus carriers increase in Bahrain

BAHRAIN (AP) — The numbers of AIDS carriers in Bahrain has more than doubled in a year to 100, the English-language Gulf Daily News reported. The newspaper said that 10 of the carriers of the HIV, human immunodeficiency virus, were expatriates who included nationals of Ethiopia, Denmark, the Seychelles, India and Syria. These were deported, it said. The majority of Bahrainis who are infected with the AIDS virus are drug addicts who contracted the disease by sharing needles, said the paper quoting unnamed informed sources. "A year ago, 40 people on the island had been found to be HIV positive," the paper said. AIDS is an affliction in which a virus attacks the body's immune system, leaving victims susceptible to a wide variety of infections and cancers. The fatal disease is often transmitted through sexual contacts, blood transfusions and sharing of contaminated needles by drug abusers. Carriers of the HIV may show no symptoms of AIDS but can contaminate others. The paper said that the Bahrain Health Ministry was stepping up its health education campaign to combat AIDS.

Afghan forces say 46 rebels killed

KABUL (R) — Afghan government troops killed 46 rebels in an ambush on a Mujahideen guerrilla convoy north of Jalalabad, according to officials. "Our forces also captured 10 rebels, including two Pakistanis, and captured and destroyed a large quantity of arms and ammunition," Foreign Ministry spokesman Humayun Mahkamel told reporters. He said troops destroyed 13 rebel vehicles and killed many of their camels but gave no details of government casualties. Unofficial sources said there were heavy losses on both sides. Radio Kabul said guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan government killed five people and wounded 11 in a rocket attack on the capital. The radio also said government forces killed 15 rebels and wounded 18 in mopping up operations near Kabul. The Foreign Ministry spokesman said the ambush was south of the Kunar Valley in eastern Afghanistan. Kunar province is largely controlled by rebels and the government launched an offensive in May to push them back towards Pakistan, where they are based, and to reopen rebel-supply routes. The offensive collapsed after initial successes.

Badran: U.S. still holds key

(Continued from page 1)

He said that a container full of Jordanian carpets worth \$800,000 now stands ready to sail to New York and Jordanian clothing factories set up at the Zarqa free zone have been exporting ready-made clothes to the United States while the Soviet Union has been added to the list of countries importing refrigerators and electrical appliances.

Badran said that the government is

following a long-term plan to solve the problem of unemployment. It is represented in the creation of a special fund for employment, enhancing the investment climate and encouragement to small size projects, he said.

The prime minister said the free elections held in 1989 opened the door for a greater measure of co-operation between the legislative and executive authorities. He denied that differences existed between the two

and said that everyone is abiding by the provisions of the Jordanian Constitution.

Badran referred to his visit to Damascus later this month and said that it was to co-chair with his Syrian counterpart the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee meeting. But he denied that Jordan was mediating between Iraq and Syria and said this issue is left for the Arab summit to be held in Cairo in November.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programmes
16:00 News Summary
16:10 Local programme
16:45 Programme review
16:50 News in Arabic
16:55 Arabic series
17:30 Programme review
17:40 Local programme
22:30 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

17:50 Fusion
18:10 Des chiffres et de lettres
18:30 Tel Paro Tel Film
18:40 News in French
19:15 Ajjournaal en Jordanie
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Golden Girls
21:10 Heart of the High Country
21:40 News in English
22:30 Paradise
23:10 Police Squad

PRAYER TIMES

06:44 Fajr
07:34 (Sunrise) Duha
12:42 Dhuhr
16:22 'Asr
19:47 Maghreb
21:19 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Sweitha Tel. 810740.
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785, 683326.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church Tel. 661737
Ternesian Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church Tel. 623383, Tel. 628543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Assyrian International Church Tel. 683236.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654952.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Normal summer weather will prevail and winds will be northwesterly moderate to strong. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./max. temp. 19 / 31
Amman 19 / 31

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Mohammad Imran 639999
Dr. Issam Abu Riza 681967
Dr. Ayman Sami Al Haj 771020
Dr. Walid Soudi 632266
First pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Azma pharmacy 637055
Nabrouk pharmacy 623672
Al Salem pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shuaiti pharmacy 637660
IRBID:
Dr. Kamal Al Najjar (—)
Al Shazra' pharmacy (983236)

AMMAN:
ZARQA:
Dr. Hussein Mahmoud (—)
Khalil pharmacy 985417

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 32, Aqaba 39. Humidity readings:
Amman 26 per cent, Aqaba 30 per cent.

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 893990
Public Security Department 63321
Hotel Complaints 603900
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Abdell Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 771111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalil Maternity, J. Amn. 642416
Al-Sheikh Maternity, J. Amn. 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Mithna, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shuaiti 664171/4
St. Michael Hospital 669131
University Hospital 945845
Al-Muhsen Hospital 667279
The Islamic, Abdell 665127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdell 664164/6
Islamic, Al-Muhajreen 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77111/26
Arany, Marita 89151/15
Queen Ali Hospital 60240/0
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Jbn Sina Hospital (09)986732
IBBID:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)255533
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272255
Jbn Al-Nafies Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (09)33205, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
06:45 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
08:30 Baghdad (RJ)
09:15 Moscow (RJ)
10:00 Rome, Vienna (RJ)
10:45 Kuwait (RJ)
11:30 Cairo (RJ)
12:15 Paris (RJ)
13:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
14:15 Amman (RJ)
15:30 Cairo (RJ)
16:30 Dubai (RJ)
17:00 Kuwait (RJ)
18:00 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
19:00 Montreal, New York (RJ)
19:00 Belgrade (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:30 Beirut (ME)
12:15 Kuwait (KU)
14:00 Cairo (MS)
14:45 Riyadh (SV)
14:50 Moscow (SU)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

11:30 Kuwait (KU)
12:30 Moscow (SU)
13:30 Cairo (MS)
13:35 Riyadh (SV)
17:00 Rome (AZ)
21:30 Zurich, Geneva (SR)
26:35 Beirut (ME)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
08:00 Amman (RJ)
09:15 London (RJ)
11:30 Belgrade (RJ)
11:40 Tripoli (RJ)
12:00 Cairo (RJ)
12:00 Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)
12:15 Amsterdam, New York (add.) (RJ)
12:45 Rome, Vienna (RJ)
13:45 Kuwait (RJ)
13:50 Geneva, Brussels (RJ)
14:15 Paris (RJ)
16:35 Larnaca (RJ)
16:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
17:00 Dhahran (RJ)
21:30 Jordan (RJ)
21:30 Kuwait (RJ)
21:30 Cairo (RJ)
21:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
22:15 Damascus (RJ)
04:00 Jeddah (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:30 Beirut (ME)
12:15 Kuwait (KU)
14:00 Cairo (MS)
14:45 Riyadh (SV)
14:50 Moscow (SU)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.
Apple 220 / 230
Apricots 350 / 360
Bananas 300 / 310
Bananas (Mekmama) 450 / 460
Beans 300 / 320
Cabbage 130 / 150
Carrots 200 / 220
Cauliflower 220 / 230
Corn 150 / 160
Cucumbers (large) 100 / 110
Cucumbers (small) 180 / 190
Dates 400 / 300
Eggs 120 / 130
Eggs 1100 / 900
Grapes 80 / 90
Lemon 400 / 410
Mallow 90 / 100
Marrows (large) 60 / 70
Marrows (small) 180 / 190
Onions (dry) 200 / 150
Onions (wet) 200 / 150
Peas 1

Meeting reviews Balqa agricultural development

SALT (J.T.) — Two factors persistently impede agricultural development in the Balqa region, which has a vast agricultural potential and is considered one of the important components of the national economy, said Minister of Agriculture Suleiman Arabiyat at a symposium held in Salt.

"These factors are represented in the total dependence on foreign labour and the soaring prices of agricultural input, which tend to limit the size of crops," he said.

"Farmers in the Balqa Governorate should pay more attention to dairy processing plants, sheep and bee farms and to processing olives and canning vegetables and fruit for which there is always a lucrative market," said the minister, who was addressing an audience gathered at the invitation of the Salt Development Corporation (SDC) in Salt.

According to statistics, the Balqa Governorate owns 400,000 dunums of land of which 142,000 dunums are irrigated by canals and 10,000 are planted with fruit trees. It also has 217,000 dunums of pasture lands for the livestock wealth, the minister pointed out.

He said there was need for expanding existing projects and investments in new schemes designed to absorb job seekers and stimulate the farming sector in the governorate.

Amis Muasher from the SDC addressed the symposium which was intended to promote local farming projects. He stressed the need for the private sector to play a leading role in solving the unemployment problem through increased investments in agricultural, industrial and tourism projects within the governorate.

"The government has been providing assistance to the private sector by ensuring stability and security in the country and by stabilising the local currency — all important contributions to successful enterprises," said Muasher.

He said that incentives had been introduced to encourage investment in these fields and to attract capital.

Sami Gammo, chairman of the board of directors of Sawt Al Shabab daily said that the Jordanian workforce is 650,000 strong and that Jordanian job seekers will probably reach 1.03 million by the year 2,000, according to studies and statistics.

He said that 150,000 Jordanians in need of employment can easily take the place of the 200,000 non-Jordanians now being employed in various economic sectors.

Mayors, heads of local village councils, directors of departments and organisations and public figures were present at the one-day symposium.

Jordan, Syria open meeting on housing and construction

AMMAN (J.T.) — A joint Jordanian-Syrian committee on housing, public works and reconstruction opened a four-day meeting here Monday to discuss bilateral cooperation in housing and construction.

The committee, set up by the Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee which will meet in Damascus later this month, is expected to discuss exchanges of information and expertise, training programmes, raising the standard of efficiency of construction work, and dealing with housing issues. It will also tackle employment of locally produced building materials and emigration of workers from rural to urban regions in the two countries.

Housing Corporation Director Yousef Hiyasat opened the committee meeting with a speech. He presented a working paper projecting Jordan's views with regard to these issues and pointing out prospects for bilateral cooperation in engineering consultancy firms, investments, legislations concerning construction operations and housing estates, according to Housing Corporation sources.

The four-day meeting will discuss encouraging joint ventures in construction fields and the removal of obstacles that impede the employment of workers from both countries.

Jordanians reluctant to do manual work - Obeidat

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — While Jordanians are complaining about the lack of job opportunities in the Kingdom and are calling on parliamentarians and government officials to help solve the growing unemployment problem, some officials say that the "unwillingness" of many Jordanians to be technical handymen, agricultural workers and enter professions such as nursing or industrial work is the real cause of unemployment and "not the lack of jobs available in the Kingdom," Minister of Labour Qasem Obeidat said.

"We have 75,000 foreign workers in the agricultural sector alone, if their jobs were taken over by Jordanians tomorrow we would no longer have a problem of unemployment," Obeidat pointed out. "It is not the jobs that are not available in Jordan it is that all the managerial and 'comfortable' clerical jobs have been filled, you can only have so many clerks," he told the Jordan Times in an interview.

According to Obeidat another main problem is the "educated unemployed." "The problem of unemployment among young educated Jordanians can largely be traced back to the lack of studies made into the needs of the

local and Arab labour markets," said Obeidat.

Most young people don't appear to find out what kind of job opportunities exist in Jordan or in other Arab countries before they embark on getting their higher education, the minister said.

"If they did and acted or studied in accordance to what the job market demands they would not be out of a job after they graduate," he added.

There are 45,000 applications for government jobs in mostly clerical areas, according to Obeidat. Out of these applicants twenty-three per cent are university graduates, sixty five per cent have finished a two-year training college and ten per cent have a tawjihi certificate. According to the Ministry of Labour sixty eight per cent of the applicants are female and thirty two per cent are male.

Obeidat pointed out that Jordan is in need of technical education starting at a high school level. "If we are to seriously address the problems of the future we have to begin with reforming some of the educational programmes," he said.

While some technical education already exists in Jordan many educationists believe that the education system in Jordan does not prepare students for the job market sufficiently.

"The Arab World is in desperate need of male and female nurses," Obeidat said. "This could be an area where Jordan could become self sufficient and even export its expertise, instead Jordanians study professions for which markets no longer exist within Jordan or the Arab countries," the minister said.

He pointed out that in some sectors Jordanians had made an effort to adapt themselves to the lack of job opportunities and taken jobs previously held by foreigners. Today only eight per cent of the hosts and hostesses which serve on the national airline Royal Jordanian are non-Jordanians, according to Obeidat.

He said that the public sector had tried to make lucrative offers to Jordanians to work in urban centres, other than Amman, but had not received a substantial response.

"For every Jordanian who is willing to take the job of any foreign worker in the Kingdom we have one less person unemployed, one less foreign worker and one less work permit to pay for," Obeidat said. "For every student who bothers to ask what areas he should study vis-a-vis the job market chances are he will come back to find a job waiting for him and not be another unsatisfied youth sitting at home," he added.



King visits armoured unit

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday watched military exercises by formations of the Third Royal Armoured Division and was briefed on the training programmes by senior army officers. The exercises included field operations and target shooting with live ammunition using various types of weapons. Fighter planes and helicopters launched raids on specified targets using live ammunition while field guns and tanks were used in support of the attacking units. The King later met with the troops' commanders and commended their efforts, congratulating them on the troops' high standard of efficiency in performance. Senior army officers from Jordan and a number of Arab countries watched the exercise which was part of the Armed Forces annual training programme.

Haj transport company denies ministry charges

By Isam Qadmani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A National company charged with undertaking the transportation and accommodation of Jordanian pilgrims in Mecca and Medina during the past pilgrimage season denied that it shirked responsibility and undermined arrangements taken by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs.

Abdullah Abu Khalaf, chairman of the company's board, said that the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs lacks solid evidence about irresponsible action and failures on the part of the company in carrying out its task.

"The company succeeded in transporting all the pilgrims to Mecca in 324 buses in just three days," Abu Khalaf pointed out. "No incidents or accidents occurred during the transportation and speedy efforts were made to put up the pilgrims in their homes in the Holy City in cooperation with the Saudi authorities," he added. He said that despite some

obstacles at the start of the pilgrimage season the company considered the whole operation as a total success, achieved through close cooperation with the official Jordanian mission in charge of the pilgrims.

Last week Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Ali Faqr accused the company of intentionally disregarding its duties and responsibilities with the purpose of undermining the ministry's arrangements.

"Those responsible for the many failures and poor travel facilities for the pilgrims will be referred to court for trial," the minister had said.

Faqr accused the company's board of intending to make the pilgrimage seasons a failure for Jordan and said that the ministry had proof as to those responsible for the failure.

A member of the company's board, Abdullah Abul Ragheb, countered the minister's accusation that the 22 buses the company used were not fit for the trip by saying that the company had hired substitute buses from Saudi Arabia once it found that the 22 vehicles were not fully equipped for the trip.

He said that repair was done in Saudi Arabia and the convoy of Jordanian and rented Saudi buses made the trip safely back to Amman.

Another board member, Mohamed Jaarah, admitted that there were failures in implementing the cleanliness and maintenance work in some of the buildings rented for the benefit of the pilgrims, but he said that this problem was immediately resolved despite the fact that pilgrims used to leave behind large quantities of waste after eating food.

Two other board members responded to the minister's accusation by saying that in any pilgrimage season some problems are bound to crop up, despite ample arrangements and preparations and that they believed certain elements were behind distorting the whole situation, prompting angry reaction from the Ministry of Awqaf.

Poultry industry needs efforts to achieve self-sufficiency — Arabiyat

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Agriculture Suleiman Arabiyat told an Arab meeting here Monday that the poultry industry of the Arab World was facing obstacles and problems and that intensive efforts must be made on the part of all sectors involved in the industry to help attain self-sufficiency of table eggs and poultry meat for the Arab World.

Addressing the opening session of a five-day conference attended by delegates from 12 Arab states including Jordan, the minister said that Arab countries still lack sufficient fodder, protein concentrates and face a constant fluctuation of prices, they also face poor

experience in handling the poultry industry and lack of proper equipment as well as the spread of disease and lack of medication facilities and proper protection for poultry farms.

Arabiyat paid tribute to the private sector for taking the lead in cooperation with the public sector in the 1960s towards developing this important industry.

Dr. Falah Saeed Jaber, secretary-general of the Arab Federation for Food Industries (AFFI) which organised the meeting in Amman, told the audience that the Arab World possesses some 488 million birds, but

that the total poultry meat production does not exceed 1.5 million and 900,000 tonnes of table eggs annually.

"These amounts do not satisfy the needs of the Arab countries and therefore problems obstructing the industry must be dealt with and overcome," Jaber said.

According to Jack Khayyat, director of the AFFI's regional office here, the meeting which was organised in cooperation with the ministries of agriculture and supply and the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) will discuss the Arab World's needs of poultry meat and eggs until the year 2005.

Artefacts discovery points to ancient life in South Shuneh

AMMAN (Petra) — A group of American professors working together with the Department of Antiquities have unearthed large sections of the ancient site of Tal Nimrein (South Shuneh) in the Jordan Valley region, revealing artefacts that point to an advanced agricultural society in the area ranging from the second century B.C. until the Ottoman Empire in the modern age.

According to Dr. Kheir Yassin from the University of Jordan who took part in the excavations, professors from the American

states of Ohio and Oregon and a team of archaeologists from the Department of Antiquities this week completed the second stage of archaeological excavations which revealed that the Tal Nimrein site witnessed a flourishing agricultural civilisation and a developed economic and social life.

Architectural achievements are represented in the remains of a large wall rising to seven metres in height.

Dr. Yassin said that archaeologists found that Tal Nimrein site was abandoned by

settlers between B.C. 1550 and 1000. "It is hoped that the ongoing studies and continuing excavations will reveal the causes behind this development and the historical gap in Tal Nimrein's history," said Yassin.

"Huge amounts of linseed and traces of irrigation canals indicate that the area witnessed developed standards of agriculture at different periods of history," Yassin added.

He said that artefacts indicated that the Islamic era was characterised by agricultural development

and the remains of grain silos containing wheat and barley stand out as a clear witness of this type of civilisation in the Jordan Valley.

Sugar cane was also known to have been planted on an industrial scale in the Jordan Valley during the Ayyubid and Mamluk eras when the Tal Nimrein came to be called Shuneh (the Arabic term for granary).

The town of Shuneh still stands in the Jordan Valley not far off from the King Hussein bridge across the river Jordan.

Badran holds talks with Pakistani Islamic judge

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran received in his office here Monday Sheikh Gul Mohammad Khan, head of the Islamic court in Pakistan and discussed with him Jordanian-Pakistani cooperation in Islamic judiciary system and Islamic jurisprudence.

The meeting was attended by Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Mohammad Mheilan.

Khan was earlier Monday received by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Ali Faqr with whom he discussed cooperation and coordination between Jordan and Pakistan in religious affairs and Islamic daawa.

Faqr briefed the guest on his ministry's endeavours to construct and repair mosques and the tombs of the Prophet Mohammad's companions as well as on restoration work at the Al Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem and other parts of the occupied territories.

He also presented Khan with a token gift and received from him a collection of Islamic books published in Pakistan.

The Pakistani guest visited the King Abdullah Ben Al Hussein Mosque at Abdali where he watched a documentary film on Israel's encroachments on the holy places and its burning of Al Aqsa mosque in 1968.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King congratulates Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday sent a cable of congratulations to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on the occasion of Iraq's national day. The King wished the Iraqi president good health and happiness and the Iraqi people further progress and prosperity.

Decree endorses amendment

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Monday endorsing an amendment to the conscription law. The amendment specifies that Jordanian expatriates, not working for official institutions, and their sons are exempted from compulsory military service in return for a payment of an amount to be decided by the council of ministers.

Communicate defines 1991 budget

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Monday issued a communique by which he defined the basis for preparing the general budget, the Manning table in government offices and the institutions' budgets for the coming financial year, 1991.

Senate called to meet Thursday

AMMAN (Petra) — Upper House of Parliament (Senate) Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi decided Monday to call the House for a meeting next Thursday at 10:30 a.m. The House is expected to refer several draft resolutions to the concerned committees.

House discusses NMI

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lower House of Parliament Legal Committee held a meeting Monday under the chairmanship of Deputy Hussein Mjalli. The committee continued discussion of a resolution on the amendment of the National Medical Institution (NMI). The committee is expected to complete discussion by the end of this week.

ACC officials meet

AMMAN (Petra) — Secretaries-general of the ministries of economy, trade and supply in the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) states will hold a meeting Tuesday in Amman in preparation for the ACC ministers of economy, trade and supply third meetings which will start here Wednesday. The secretaries-general will discuss several issues concerning following up the resolutions of the second ministerial meeting which was held in Baghdad last year and the economic policies adopted in the ACC member states.

Mrs. Ben Shaker honoured

ZARQA (Petra) — Chairwoman of the Soldier Welfare Society (SWS) Nawazad Shaker, wife of the Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, was presented with a shield in appreciation of her efforts and contribution to the voluntary work in Jordan. The honouring ceremony took place at Zarqa Chamber of Commerce, in the presence of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and Upper House of Parliament member Ibrahim Tagieddin, who is also president of Zarqa Chamber of Commerce. The shield was presented to Mrs. Shaker by Tagieddin.

Painting exhibition opens

AMMAN (Petra) — A painting exhibition was opened Monday at the Jordan Plastic Art Association gallery by Minister of Culture Khaled Al Karaki who deputised for Prime Minister Mudar Badran. The exhibition, which is expected to last for two weeks, portrays paintings representing various plastic art schools in Iraq. The opening ceremony was attended by Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al Kabarti, the Iraqi ambassador to Jordan and several artists.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zarz displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosebush (9:30-11:30 and 3:30-6:30).
- ★ Exhibitions of ceramics, paintings by Gastone Primon at Alla Art Gallery.
- ★ Plastic art exhibition by Randa and Ruba Haddad at the Housing Bank Complex hall.
- ★ Photo exhibition entitled "Jordan — Mysteries and Shadows" by Oumad student Mohammed Bin Mahdi Bin Jawad at Yarmouk University.
- ★ Plastic art exhibition by deaf artist Khaled Mahmoud Atiyeh at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by ten Iraqi artists at the Jordan Plastic Art Association Gallery — tel. No. 699914.
- ★ Lecture by Ahmad Obeidat on the national charter at the Orthodox Club — 8:00 p.m.
- ★ Lecture on "Archaeology and Economy in Jordan" by Rami Khouat at the United Kingdom Alumni Society Club (UKAS), Jabal Lawzeh — 8:15 p.m.

JERASH FESTIVAL

- ★ Concert by the Syrian troupe Unayyah at the South Theatre — 8:30 p.m.
- ★ Concerts by the Jordan Armed Forces Band (6:00 - 7:00 p.m.), a local folk troupe (7:00 - 8:00) and a Yugoslav folk troupe (8:30 - 9:30 p.m.) at the Forum.
- ★ Poets and poetry at Artemis Steps (7:00 - 9:00 p.m.)
- ★ Concert by the Royal Jordanian (RJ) folk troupe at Artemis Steps — 9:30 p.m.

Jordan, Egypt sign trade protocol

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Egypt Monday signed an agreement on exchanging equal shares of goods in the 1990-1991 period totalling \$60 million, and announced that the Egyptian Naser Export-Import Company and the Jordanian Commercial Centres Corporation (JCCC) will be authorised to implement the deal.

According to a statement issued after the signing of the agreement, Jordan will sell Egypt white cement, plain glass solar heaters, equipment used in the drip irrigation system, knives, electric lifts, raw phosphate, chemical fertilisers and rock wool.

It will import Egyptian aluminium, formica, rice, peanuts, linen, onions, garlic, potatoes, nails, office equipment, and razor blades.

The agreement was signed at the Ministry of Industry and Trade by its Secretary-General Ibrahim Badran and Kamal Hilali, chairman of the Egyptian Naser Import and Export Company.

Al Wahdah

(Continued from page 1)

cubic metres.

At present the ministry is making plans for building 10 dams starting in 1991, the minister said. This four year project, together with the water to come from the Al Wahdah dam, will suffice Jordan's needs until the year 2000.

The ministry could also look into the prospect of resorting to non-traditional sources to suffice these needs, like desalination of sea water and deep drilling which is costly and complicated.

The ministry of water and irrigation's secretary general has noted that the Amman area alone is in need of 12,000 cubic metres of drinking water per hour in the summer, and 9,000 cubic metres in winter.

Mutazz Bilbeisi said the shortage of water in the Kingdom was largely due to increased water consumption in the hot season, the growing population and the presence of visitors from the Gulf region.

According to Bilbeisi, Jordan is facing a dangerous water shortage for drinking and irrigation and the future remains grim unless new water resources can be found.

"Jordan is facing a shortage of at least 50 million cubic metres of water annually and nearly a 10 per cent increase in water consumption due to the growing population."

He said that overpumping from artesian wells led to increased salinity, which makes water unfit to drink, and to closure of wells.

The ministry has adopted a water distribution programme over the past few years in order to ration water consumption and the programme is being implemented in the western districts of the capital which receive water at the rate of 48 hours each week, Bilbeisi said.

GRATITUDE

The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany wishes to thank all Jordanian citizens, official and private institutions, diplomatic missions and U.N. organisations for the warm congratulatory telegrams, tel. calls and/or visits on the occasion of the West German victory in the World Cup Final.

A special word of thanks is directed to the management and staff-members of the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel and the group of artists from Irbid Governorate for their beautiful memorial presents on this occasion.

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Established 1975

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Everyone has a stake

ON SUNDAY, officials reported the death of two people and the injury of 20 in road accidents in different parts of the country. The victims joined hundreds of others on the casualty list of the carnage on the roads in 1989. In 1989, traffic accidents claimed the lives of 345 people, almost one every day. The injured totalled 9,956. According to the Public Security Department (PSD), these figures put Jordan in the second place among nations with the highest number of casualties of road accidents. The PSD statistics show that road accidents are on the increase.

So, what makes Jordan so prone to traffic accidents of this magnitude and enormity? Officially the most often quoted reasons are speeding and reckless driving. Maybe so. But are there other reasons that can be cited? Any neutral observer of driving in Jordan would immediately notice two things: an apparent ignorance or negligence on the part of drivers and traffic police, of the rules of traffic and almost total disregard to the rights of other drivers. This is most evident at stop signs. Drivers do not observe them and traffic police seem to be perpetually oblivious to their meaning. People's ignorance or ignoring of traffic etiquette amounts to the most basic of rules: The right of way at intersections. Drivers' disrespect and disregard for fellow drivers and to pedestrians is appalling. One need not conduct a study or research on these two aspects of driving to conclude that they must be the most outstanding reasons for accidents. Drivers who use head lights at night and those who fail to signal when turning, either because of ignorance or disregard, are responsible for many traffic incidents. But the most dangerous of accidents are those made by drivers who overtake other vehicles and fail to calculate the proper distance from other traffic needed to safely clear that vehicle.

This of course is compounded by the poor quality of the roads, the lack or total absence of traffic signs and road markings, pedestrians recklessly or lazily crossing the roads, animals crossing the highways, and above all by traffic police failing to do their job.

To be able to reduce traffic fatalities in the Kingdom, drivers' competence, their knowledge of traffic rules and respect for other drivers' right of way must be addressed. This can be done by launching a comprehensive programme to first re-educate our traffic police on its duties and second to make the public more aware of its responsibilities and then by applying stringent but fair driving tests — not those taken today in which only physical strength in applying the brakes or shifting gears is tested, and in which illegal and misleading methods are used against the examinees. The government should take the lead in this endeavour since it issues driving licences, oversees adherence to traffic rules and controls the segments of the media most suitable for an awareness campaign. But our public should also do its utmost to help in this national effort. After all, it is our lives that are at stake here.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Monday indirectly criticised the Lower House of Parliament for rejecting the government's motion to scrap the Ministry of Higher Education following a lengthy debate on Saturday. The paper said that now parliament has taken its decision, both the government and the press can by no means reverse it, and should only respect the deputies' views. We realise that both parliament and the government seek to give universities in Jordan a greater measure of independence, regardless of the decision taken on Saturday; but we had wished that the legal and educational committees in parliament carried out full debates on this issue with the purpose of introducing amendments to the government's proposals, rather than rejecting the motion outright, said the paper. By rejecting the government proposal, parliament has not exercised its full right represented in discussing the question in full and submitting counter proposals or amendments, the paper added. By doing so, parliament has thus left this legislative action totally in the hands of the government which had sought assistance from the House to settle this issue, and had hoped that a parliament decision could help to preserve the universities' independence as desired by many parliament members, the paper noted. It expressed the view that the result of Saturday's session did not serve the government or parliament, nor did it do any favour to the universities themselves.

Al Dastour daily commented Monday on the extraordinary session of the Arab League in Tunis held at the foreign ministers level. It said that the meeting which began Sunday is expected by the Arab masses to come up with an effective reply to Washington's decision to suspend its dialogue with the PLO and a joint Arab action in the face of Washington's attitude vis-a-vis the situation in the Middle East. Upon taking its decision, Washington did not give any consideration to the Arab countries' views or their reactions, nor has Washington been interested at any time in what the Arabs think or demand for a just Middle East settlement, said the paper. It said all that Washington is interested in is to remain biased towards Israel at the expense of Arab national interests. Therefore, said the paper, we believe that the Arab foreign ministers will reach a consensus, reflecting the spirit of the Baghdad Arab Summit and projecting the Arab nation's readiness to take practical steps in dealing with the United States stand.

Sawt Al Shabab daily discussed the Syrian-Egyptian summit meeting in Alexandria, and said that the Arabs demand a unified stand by all Arab countries, transcending side differences so that they can confront the new challenges. The Assad-Mubarak meetings offer a good chance for the achievement of such objectives and for paving the way for the presidents of Iraq and Syria to exchange visits so that they can reach the aspired reconciliation, said the paper.

American support shifts towards Palestinian rights

The following article is reprinted from the New York Times

By William E. Schmidt

SAGINAW, Mich. — Like many Americans, Donald Power long counted himself an admirer of Israel. A federal labour mediator who lives here in Saginaw, he marveled at the courage and spirit of the small nation, a fledgling democracy so imperiled yet so determined to survive.

But in recent years, Power says, his regard for Israel has waned. He has come, increasingly, to see the Middle Eastern nation as arrogant and even oppressive in the way it has handled the protests by Palestinians on the West Bank and how it has dealt with its Arab neighbours.

"I don't think they deserve all the support and the aid we give them," said Power. "Maybe it's time to say, we're tired, we're poor, we have our own people without homes."

Power's concerns are not unusual: they are reflected in a New York Times/CBS News Poll taken last month and in discussions with Americans in many cities in recent weeks. And these soundings all show some erosion in Americans' regard for Israel, a keystone of the special relationship that country has enjoyed with Washington since its founding in 1948.

There is still an enduring core of support for Israel, especially when considered in relation to its Arab neighbours, but Americans no longer side strongly with Israel against the Palestinians within its borders.

The majority of Americans who say they favour sustained financial and military aid to Israel has been reduced, and a growing minority now advocates more sympathy for the concerns of Palestinians inside Israel.

Supporters of Israel in Congress and among Jewish organisations acknowledge that Israel's backing within the United States is not as deep as it once was, reflecting a tangle of factors, such as Israel's role in putting down protests on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip, and the perception that Israel is no longer so strategically important, given the fading of the Soviet threat.

Foreign aid decisions by Congress do not always follow every twist in popular opinion, and influential pro-Israel lobbying groups have helped to shore up official support for Israel despite the changes in public mood.

The House of Representatives, for example, voted overwhelmingly last month to sustain aid to Israel at current levels, estimated to be nearly \$4 billion annually.

David A. Harris, the Direc-

tor of the Office of Government and International Affairs for the American Jewish Committee in Washington, said some of the slippage was, perhaps, predictable.

"We created a mythical image for Israel that neither Israel, despite all of its remarkable achievements, nor any other nation could ever live up to," he said.

Some Jewish groups also argue that erosion in support is only a temporary phenomenon, mirroring, among other things, what they describe as unfair reporting that depicts Israel as the villain on the West Bank.

"There is a cause to be watchful," said Stanley B. Horowitz, President and Chief Professional Officer of the United Jewish Appeal. "But the values which we share with Israel are so strong, I am not deeply worried. Support for Israel will shoot up again."

According to the results of the Times/CBS News poll, conducted by telephone June 5 to 8 among 1,084 people, 61 per cent advocated sustaining or increasing levels of aid to Israel. The poll had a margin of sampling error of plus or minus three percentage points.

In a Washington Post/ABC News poll in 1989, 72 per cent favoured keeping aid at or above the same level.

This continuing, though diminished, majority support was reflected in the view of Elmer G. Daniels, a Jewish businessman interviewed in suburban Baltimore.

"I would do virtually anything to assist Israel," said Daniels. "It is the only democracy in the region, and the only country that has been, without equivocation, an ally of the U.S., representing our interests there."

But 47 per cent of those questioned in the Times/CBS News poll, say they now support giving the Palestinians a homeland in the occupied territories of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, a proposal which the Israeli government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir opposes. In a 1988 Los Angeles Times poll, 40 per cent favoured a Palestinian homeland.

The slippage in U.S. opinion is even more dramatic when it comes to internal or domestic turmoil in Israel. In a 1988 Times/CBS News poll, when asked whether the United States should be more sympathetic to the concerns of Palestinians in Israel, the American public said no by a two-to-one ratio, but in last month's poll American public opinion was split.

When it comes to Israel's external security, however, Americans continue to favour

Israel over its Arab neighbours by a wide margin: 40 per cent in the latest poll say they are more in sympathy with Israel, while 19 per cent say they are more in sympathy with the Arab nations.

But even that is a reduced advantage compared with past surveys. The Roper organisation, asking the same question, showed as high as a five-to-one advantage for Israel in the 1970s.

Despite the growing willingness to show sympathy toward the Palestinians, however, many of those interviewed said they still harboured sharp suspicions, particularly about PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and some of the Arab leaders.

Gene Mosser, a lawyer in Saginaw, said he regarded the Israeli government as stubborn and intractable, but he did not trust the Palestinian leadership either. "My sympathy is toward the people, but I am not sure about Arafat or many of the others," he said. "There are no moderates on either side."

Rumbles of change in politicians' ears.

These shifts in public opinion have not gone unnoticed in Congress. Rep. Lee H. Hamilton of Indiana, the second-ranking Democrat on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said that, while Americans still support a close relationship with Israel, "there is a more of a doubt, in some areas, a resentment, of our high levels of assistance of Israel."

Israel is the most obvious target of those broadly opposed to foreign aid, he said, because it receives more help than any other country.

"I don't think there is a seismic change," said Hamilton. "But none the less, there are clearly changes taking place both within the American Jewish community and the public in general."

In April, the Senate Republican leader, Bob Dole of Kansas, provoked a sharp debate when he said his colleagues should be willing to consider cuts in American aid to Israel.

Dole said at the time that some of his fellow senators are privately as critical of Israeli policy as he is. "I know people, and I know they won't say it out loud," he said. "But they'll grab you in the cloakroom and tell you, 'you're right. I can't say it because I'm running,' or 'when I've been here as long as you have, I'll be able to say it.'"

In part, the volatility in American public opinion towards Israel reflects the more turbulent relations between the Israeli government and the Bush administration, which has taken a more adversarial role in trying to fashion a Middle East settlement.



In Saginaw, Dr. Senen L.R. Asuan, a physician from the Philippines, said he shared the frustration of the Bush administration. "Israel has behaved like a spoiled child," he said. "It could ask anything under the sun and Uncle Sam would give it the money."

Thomas Murphy, a production worker from Garfield, N.J., said he once was a strong backer of Israel.

"But they aren't the little boy on the block anymore, who need our help," said Murphy. "They have the right to exist, but not to expand their borders. Just as the Arabs once threatened to push them into the sea, now they are trying to push the Arabs off their land."

Charles Victor McTeer, a civil rights lawyer from Greenville, Miss., says the United States ought not to give so much support to a government that refuses to negotiate with its adversary.

"It's easy for me, as a black American, to make a leap between Israel and the Palestinians on the West Bank, and South Africa and its black majority," said McTeer. "At least the South Africans are talking."

Behind the ambivalent mood is a flood of contradictory images that come out of Israel itself these days: Israeli soldiers firing on young Palestinian protesters on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip; armed guerrillas from an extremist Palestinian faction mounting an unsuccessful speedboat assault on crowded holiday beaches; the sharp and sometimes angry political divisions within Israel itself over what should be done with the occupied territories.

But more and more, America's changing opinions about Israel are also being shaped by events far beyond Middle East.

For some, the end of the cold war and the fading of the Soviet threat has raised doubts about the need to subsidise Israel, and other foreign clients, to the degree American has in the past.

There are those who argue that money ought to be spent inside the United States.

"You are asking a country that is broke right today, billions of dollars broke, to bail out these foreign governments," said Chet Latty, a bricklayer in Saginaw. "How can we think of channeling money into Africa and East Germany and Israel?"

Toni Christian, a postal worker in Towson, Md., had a similar response: "I definitely think we should give Israel less money because of economic problems in the United States."

Some pro-Israel groups say such views reflect a kind of nascent isolationism among Americans. "There is a growing preoccupation with domestic issues at the expense of overseas concerns, driven largely by the perception of a waning external threat to U.S. security from the Soviet Union," said Harris of the American Jewish Committee.

He described American public opinion as being too impatient with the complicated details and nuances of Middle East politics.

"We often find ourselves having to confront simple and ultimately false analogies that attempt to compare, for example, South Africa with the Middle East, or Nelson Mandela with Yasser Arafat," said Harris.

Harris said pro-Israeli groups need to stress that American strategic interests remain at risk in much of the Third World. "In a perverse way, Saddam Hussein in Iraq has reminded all of us of the kinds of serious threats that

still endure in the Middle East," he said.

Horowitz of the United Jewish Appeal said that, despite disagreements over Israeli policies among Jews and non-Jews, there is still strong support for Israel demonstrated by the willingness of Jewish donors and others to contribute money on Israel's behalf.

The most telling measure of this, he said, is the United Jewish Appeal's current giving campaign, which he said will raise more than \$1 billion; a record, that will go to help resettle Soviet Jews in Israel.

As polls taken by the American Jewish Committee, among others, have shown, there is tension among Jews about Israeli policy. Glenn Nudell, a student at Towson State University near Baltimore, said he favoured reducing aid to Israel.

He said he questions the mentality "that the Palestinians are evil and the Jews are good."

"I'm Jewish, and I don't think the Palestinians are evil," Nudell said. "I think Shamir and the rightist government have got it all wrong."

Among some Jews who were interviewed, the notion that public support for Israel had declined raised what they described as the troubling spectre of anti-Semitism.

"I think there are people who, in their hearts, do not want the Jewish state to survive," said Seymour Attman, the owner of Attman's delicatessen in Pikesville, Md. "I think it has something to do with anti-Semitism."

But Darren M. Margolis, another student at Towson State, said he thought Americans simply expected too much from Israel. "It is not fair," he said. "That we are trying to hold up Israel to a standard, which applies to no other country."

Violent controversy grips South Korea

By Lee Su-Wan
Reuters

SEOUL — The decision by South Korea's ruling party to ram controversial bills through parliament has plunged the nation deeper into crisis, political analysts said.

They said South Koreans were dismayed by political confrontation, which boiled over into violence in parliament on Saturday, and were wondering when it would be replaced by compromise.

Two members of parliament were injured in fist fights as the Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) forced through 23 bills denounced by the opposition as undemocratic.

One of the bills, which will restructure the state-run Korea Broadcasting System (KBS) and create a new broadcasting network, infuriated union workers who said the government was trying to strengthen its grip on the media.

Thousands of workers at KBS, the Munsuwa Broadcasting Corporation (MBC), the nation's second largest network, and two private radio organisations started an indefinite strike on Saturday to press the government to scrap the bill.

"Was the passage of the bills in such a bulldozing manner, the only available manner for the ruling party?" Said an editorial in the leading daily Chosun Ilbo.

"The way the ruling party lawmakers acted was unreasonable and subject to public criticism. Equally wrong was the way the opposition lawmakers acted to block the passage of the bills."

Political analysts said the uproar over the bills had added to a national crisis of confidence as President Roh Tae-Woo enters the latter part of his tenure.

The president began his single five-year term in February, 1988, after he was elected in the country's first free, direct presidential vote in 16 years.

The country's once booming economy is slowing and there is widespread discontent over the pace of democratic reform.

"The situation two months ago, which had been described as a total crisis, seems to be worsening rather than improving," the Korea Herald said.

Four opposition lawmakers resigned over the way the bills were pushed through parliament. As the one-month parliamentary session ended on Saturday, government and opposition parties retired to work out their next moves.

"We had no other choice but to pass the bills unilaterally as the opposition, using violent means, tried to block even the introduction of urgent bills," a DLP spokesman said.

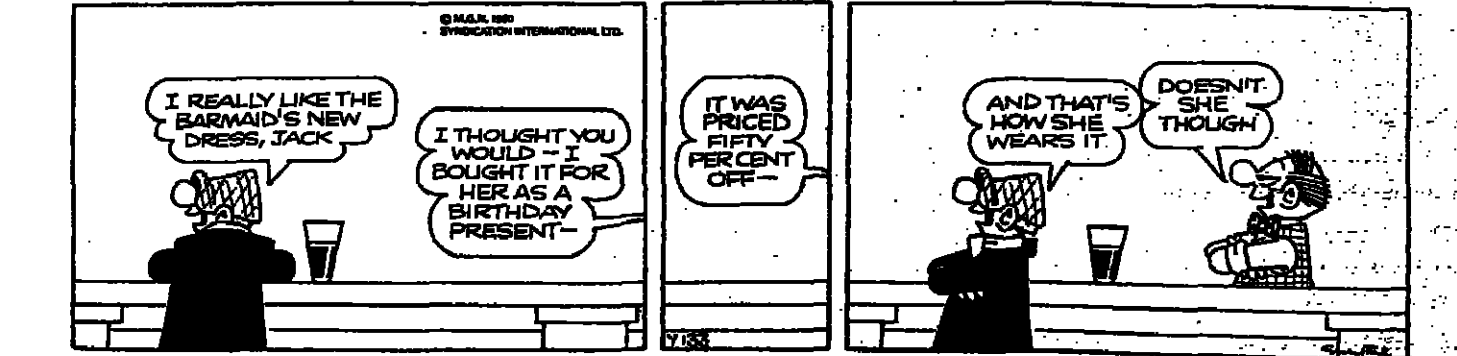
The main opposition party for peace and democracy (PPD) denounced the DLP action as "tyranny which means the death of parliamentary politics."

"The consensus among our lawmakers is to quit parliamentary seats en masse and struggle against the government outside parliament," a PPD spokesman said on Sunday. Party Leader Kim Dae-Jung would make a formal decision soon, he said.

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Romania — food is plenty, but so are people

By Stephen Nisbet
Reuters

BUCHAREST — There is a joke in Bucharest that food is so plentiful the pigs are queuing up to be slaughtered.

The pro-government newspaper Adevarul explained that 400,000 pigs and 30,000 bullocks ready for the abattoir were living on borrowed time because cold-storage places were full.

Supplies are better than in communist times, but it is still the humans who do most of the queuing.

One food store did not have enough stock to reach its monthly sales target so it diversified into clothing, filling empty shelves with a load of slippers (all large size) in an attempt to earn more lei.

Bucharest residents complain that shoes are usually hard to find in state stores and that many are stolen by shop assistants for sale on the black market at three times the price.

"Shop assistants are the new rich in Romania," said a hospital worker who also criticised the gypsies who dominate the makeshift markets that have sprung up in the last six months.

The government may be enthusiastic about developing a market economy and dumping socialist-style central planning, but the

gypsy market are the target for increasing police raids.

Although many people blame black marketers for the shortages and inflation, others point to supply bottlenecks caused by central planning.

One big meat processing plant has opened its own shop so that supplies can reach the customer directly and its own workers can share in the profits.

The government says it wants to encourage these experiments.

But one Bucharest state employee said she was resisting the temptation to switch to a job in the private sector because she thought it would be politically out of favour again before long.

In the meantime, Romania is still a country of frequent queues, notably for basics like bread and petrol.

One driver visiting Husi in northeast Romania had to take a town hall official along to a filling station to persuade the attendant to sell him premium grade petrol.

He was lucky to find the place open. Lines of vehicles formed outside another filling station which was closed in mid-afternoon when the early shift went home and before the late shift arrived.

Ask shoppers in Bucharest what they think of supplies, and the answer depends on what they compared it with — pre-revolutionary Romania before the fall of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu last December, or the rest of Europe now.

A fatty, greying lump of pork on a butcher's slab stirred spirited debate between two middle-aged housewives.

"Why should we feel grateful for stuff like that?" said one. But her companion emphasised the improvement since the Ceausescu era, when heads and trotters were said to be the only parts of pigs not reserved for

export or the party elite.

One woman at a vegetable market said things were much better, but before she could elaborate she was summoned away by a friend who had been keeping her place in a tomato queue.

One commodity of which there is no shortage, is flowers, which can be bought at any hour of the day at street stalls, again often run by gypsies.

Romanians buy a few blooms for just about any reason at all, and even in mid-revolution they liked to keep the flowers looking nice.

Coffee, however, is in such short supply that a waitress at a pavement cafe may baldly state there is none when a customer at the next table is drinking a cup of it.

The smiling waitress is not being rude — as she proves when she produces fizzy mineral water instead and says there is no charge.

Romanians say the coffee drinker may have been owed a favour as part of the mutual back-scratching process so essential to survival in a land of shortages and queues.

A walk along Bucharest's main shopping street one weekday afternoon revealed at least a dozen street stalls selling everything from foreign cigarettes to lottery tickets and pirated Bulgarian records.

The idea was to compare service there with the Unirea department store — Bucharest's answer to Moscow's GUM, New York's Macy's or Harrods in London. But at 4.15 p.m. the store was locked, all staff had gone and there was no explanation to be seen.

"They must have gone home early to watch the World Cup," said a weary shopper.



One commodity of which there is no shortage is flowers, which can be bought at any hour of the day at street stalls which are often run by gypsies.



"It is unacceptable that generations of children should be condemned to exploitation and abuse until poverty is abolished."

Child labour: the invisible victims

MANY are mistreated, most are exploited and there are untold legions of them: the working children in the world of 1990.

But the ceaseless efforts to protect childhood are at long last beginning to bear some fruit, according to a new ILO report.

A growing number of both industrialised and developing countries have adopted "child labour legislation that on the whole is progressive and reasonably close to international standards," it says. "While many improvements remain to be made, a workable legal foundation has for the most part already been laid."

Another major achievement is the "dramatic and steady decline of child labour in the mills and factories of mainstream industries," the report finds.

One reason is that this formal sector consists of enterprises easily encompassed within national labour legislation and regulations, and most effectively reached by systems of enforcement.

In addition, the technology of modern industrial production favours the use of skilled and semi-skilled adult manpower. Finally, rising incomes in many parts of the world have diminished parents' dependence on the economic contribution of their children.

But none of these salutary developments has as yet penetrated Third World agriculture, the urban informal sector and domestic service where child labour is most widespread.

The tillers of the land are generally far less protected by labour legislation than other workers. Their young helpers even less so. Often they must "work as hard as their parents in order to earn enough for family survival," the report says.

There is also increasing concern about the accident and disease rate among child agricultural workers. Controls on hazardous insecticides and herbicides are

deficient and neither children nor their parents receive instruction on how to use them safely. The same goes for machinery.

The study predicts that as the modernisation of world agriculture continues, the number of rural children vulnerable to exploitation may rise.

More and more children eke out a subsistence living in the rapidly expanding informal sector in cities, toiling in small enterprises for a pittance or as unpaid employees in family-owned businesses.

In brickyards they carry heavy loads that leave them injured, weakened and deformed. Child carpet weavers labour under conditions that ruin their eyesight and lead to deformed limbs and backs. Young pencil makers work in hazardous slates dust that condemns them to early disability and death from lung disease.

Millions of boys and girls work the streets — hawking merchandise, shining shoes, washing automobiles or prostituting themselves.

However, "youngsters working as household domestic servants may be the most vulnerable and exploited children of all and the most difficult to protect," the report says. The vast majority are girls, frequently pre-adolescents who are completely dependent on their employers.

Sometimes impoverished parents place their child with relatives or acquaintances on the understanding that the employing family will support and educate the child. It may turn out as planned but quite often it does not.

Many of these young servants are malnourished, are made to sleep on the kitchen floor and are not permitted to attend school. Sexual abuse is said to be common.

In other cases the child has been hired out for wages, typically paid to parents. Or the child may be sold into bondage for an advance sum. Some children are in this way unwittingly sold into forced prostitution.

"Child workers remain concerned in agriculture, the urban informal sector and domestic services because they are most hidden from public scrutiny," the report says. Their existence is often kept under "a tight veil of secrecy and isolation," which conceals some of the worst abuses and exploitation of the defenceless victims.

"The essential first step in extending effective protection to these children must be the development of means to discover and reach them," the report says. It stresses that public pressure by concerned citizens is the prime mover of child labour reforms.

"Virtually all countries enjoying effective enforcement of child labour laws owe at least part of the credit to such public interest involvement." The report describes the role of governments, the media, voluntary groups, employers and unions to combat child labour, particularly by promoting legislation and enforcement measures. It also outlines pragmatic new approaches, including the provision of education and training as well as the creation of protected income-earning opportunities for working children.

Poverty is the root cause of child labour. But it is "unacceptable that generations of children should be condemned to exploitation and abuse until poverty is abolished," the report argues. In fact, the experience in various developing countries shows that "children can be effectively protected even while they and their families are poor."

It concludes: "To tolerate child labour is neither morally justifiable nor good social policy. It is morally indefensible because it countenances an evil that is avoidable. It is poor social policy because it abandons the most fundamental purpose of all human society, which is the protection and nurturing of its young, and because it sacrifices the qualities of future human resources by squandering them prematurely" — ILO.

Caught in the shackles of poverty

By Mitya New
Reuters

HONG KONG — At about 10 p.m. the call came through, starting the Pak Fu Shan army camp to life. Land-Rover engines churned and stuttered, doors slammed and headlights cut through the darkness.

A 10-minute drive along the 5.2-metre high border fence and the army's quarry was caught in the glare of the lights.

Two young Chinese men, their wrists bound together with plastic

cord and clutching only small plastic bags with a dry change of clothes, squatted passively on the ground surrounded by sturdy Gurkha soldiers and the gawking local villagers who had first discovered the pair in the bushes.

For the British army, using 500 men equipped with the latest technology in infra-red sights, tracker dogs and helicopters, catching illegal immigrants on the border between China and Hong Kong is an increasingly difficult task.

The immigrants now are a

tougher, more determined breed.

The number scaling or cutting through the fence is rising, and ever more are caught sneaking in the opposite direction — back to China after snatching a few lucrative, illegal months in the colony.

"Now they offer resistance and will certainly try and escape if they can," said Major Willie Bicket, acting Commanding Officer of the Seventh Duke of Edinburgh's own Gurkha rifles, which are stationed at the border. "Before they were very passive."

Many come armed with knives

and guns, either converted starting pistols or Chinese military issue, he said.

"A Gurkha was killed in 1989," Bicket said. "His kukri was turned on him and he was beaten to death."

The soldiers are armed only with stout staves and the short, curved Gurkha kukri knife. Almost every day immigrants, usually men in their 20s entering in groups of two or three, are drawn across the 31 kilometres land border by the booming wealth of Hong Kong's economy.

Numbers caught on the border, where terrain ranges from steep, rough hillsides in the east to fertile agricultural land in the centre and duck ponds and mud flats in the west, have risen sharply.

The army had stopped 1,943 illegal immigrants — or IIs — by mid-June, compared with 2,726 in the whole of last year.

Arrests of IIs who made it into the colony where 11,342 by mid-June — approaching the 1989 total of 15,841.

The army estimates it catches about eight out of 10 of those attempting to cross the land border, Bicket said.

Many are smuggled into Hong Kong hidden in the 12,000 vehicles that cross daily at the main Man Kam to checkpoint, police sources said. Another popular way is the high-speed powerboats used for smuggling, which easily outrun marine police craft, the source said.

In May 1988, Hong Kong began prosecuting and jailing illegal immigrants found working in the territory to counter a swelling wave of entries. Previously, they were simply handed back.



Hong Kong's booming economy transmits hope to Chinese men and women hoping to make quick profits.

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Chiaipucci still leads after 15th stage in Tour de France

REVEL, France (AP) — Claudio Chiappucci added three seconds to his slim lead in the Tour de France Monday, as the leaders rode a conservative 15th stage and allowed France's Charles Mottet to win the leg by nearly five minutes.

Greg Lemond, Eric Breukink and Pedro Delgado finished the relatively flat 170-kilometre leg on Millau to reveal just behind Chiappucci, leaving the top of the standings virtually unchanged.

The overall leader improved his margin to 1:52 over Breukink, 2:24 over Lemond and 4:29 over Delgado with six stages remaining.

Mottet finished the stage in 4 hours, 13 minutes, 56 seconds, averaging a fast 40 kilometres-per-hour.

Temperatures cooled slightly with a gentle breeze but temperatures were still close to 27 degrees Celsius (80 Fahrenheit).



Chiappucci in action during the 15th stage of the Tour de France

Soviets losing world chess domination

MANILA (R) — The Soviet Union appears to be losing its domination of world chess after 16 days of gruelling competition in Manila to decide who will challenge for the world title in 1993.

While Soviet players won top honours in the Manila World International Tournament, six of the eleven qualifiers for the 1991 candidates matches were non-Soviets.

"There's bigger representation of non-Soviet players now," said World Chess Federation (FIDE) President Florencio Campomanes.

Soviet grandmaster Boris Gelfand, 22, and compatriot Vassily Ivanchuk tied for first place after the final round with nine points.

Gelfand won the tie-break to win the 46-man, Swiss-style competition that ended Saturday.

Britain's Nigel Short and India's Viswanathan Anand, who is only the second Asian to qualify for the candidates round, tied for third place at 8.5 points.

The other non-Soviet qualifiers were Switzerland's Viktor

Korchnoi, Gyula Sax of Hungary, Robert Huebner of West Germany and Yugoslav Predrag Nikolic. The other Soviet qualifiers were Alexei Dreiev and Sergei Dolmatov.

Jan Timman of the Netherlands and Jonathan Speelman of Britain, having qualified earlier, did not play in Manila.

The candidates round will decide who will challenge world champion Garry Kasparov of the Soviet Union in the 1993 world championship.

Campomanes believes the traditional Soviet system of developing chess players is disintegrating with the restructuring of sports amid political changes in the Soviet Union.

The Soviet system involves identifying talented players at a very early age and providing state subsidies for the best.

With the recent changes in the Soviet Union, the previous total state hold on sports seems to be loosening, chess analysts in Manila said.

"They are losing total authority," Campomanes said.

The new atmosphere has produced more genuine competition. In the past, Western players accused Soviets of orchestrating games, pitting one Soviet against another to ensure the stronger player would advance.

"In the Manila tournament, some of the Soviet players were killing each other," a Filipino chess analyst said, citing Ivanchuk's defeat of Alexander Khalifman in the 12th round and Gelfand's trouncing of Jaan Ehlvest in the 13th round.

"For the first time, in a tournament of the highest level, we find situations which did not generate the expected results," Campomanes said.

The tournament produced some major upsets, notably the failure of Soviet champion Rafael Vaganian to qualify and the defeat of the American challenge provided by Yasser Seirawan and Soviet defector Gata Kamsky.

Vaganian fell to France's Joel Lautier and Britain's Michael Adams and dropped out of the running in the early stage.

Italians, Germans and Soviets top world Fencing Championships

LYON, France (AP) — Andrea Borella won a silver medal in the men's foil and Angelo Mazzoni a silver in the men's epee, leading the Italian team to a dominating 10 medals in the World Fencing Championships, including golds in men's team epee and foil and women's foil.

The Italian men placed in each of the individual and team disciplines while the women only missed in the individual epee in the championships, which ended Sunday.

The West Germans match Italy's gold medal haul, led by 28-year-old Thomas Gerull victory in the men's epee competition

and Anja Fitchel's title in the women's foil. The Germans won the other gold, one of four medals overall, in the women's team epee.

"We knew we could get good results in this world championship," said Italian coach Attilio Fini. "But it has also helped us to see the youngest members of the team winning silver and bronze medals."

"Now that we know how good the young fencers are doing, the older ones in the team must work very hard to keep up," Fini said.

The Soviet Union won seven medals overall, one gold — in men's team saber, two silvers and

four bronze. "We wanted five medals to be satisfied with this year's world championship," said Emil Beck, the head West German coach. "We can't pretend to say that everything is easy for us to win, because the Soviet Union and Italy are very strong."

"We will have a team of 10 or 11 fencers in each event ready to compete for the 1992 Olympics. They are working very hard in Germany."

Tamir Chappe of Cuba broke into the European domination by becoming the first woman of her country to win a world title in winning the epee event.

McEnroe returns to courts again

WASHINGTON (AP) — John McEnroe begins his latest, and what he says may be his most critical, comeback attempt when the Sovran Bank Classic opens.

Andre Agassi is the top seed in the \$415,800 event, the first in the U.S. summer hard-court season leading to next month's U.S. Open.

McEnroe, a former No. 1-ranked player, has slipped to 12th in the ranking and is fighting at 31 to recover some of his past luster. He's seeded third in Washington.

"If I take a couple of steps in the wrong direction, in my opinion, I'll be out of tennis in six months," McEnroe said after his first-round loss at Wimbledon last month.

Also leading the 56-player field are No. 6 Brad Gilbert — seeded second — defending champ Tim Mayotte and Michael Chang. Aaron Krickstein and Jimmy Connors both withdrew due to injuries.

Agassi is trying to keep up the 1990 momentum that was highlighted by his runner-up in the French Open, his best showing in a Grand Slam event.

Boxing champion Douglas, promoter settle lawsuit

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — World heavyweight boxing champion James "Buster" Douglas said Sunday night he has agreed to a financial settlement in his breach of contract suit naming promoter Don King, according to a published report.

"I am totally relieved in one sense, and that is that I am free of Don King," Douglas told the Columbus Dispatch. He spoke by telephone from New York, where the U.S. District Court trial was to have entered its third week Monday.

"On the other hand, I would just like to say Don did an awful lot of lying on the witness stand," Douglas said. "I got to say my piece briefly (for 35 minutes) Friday, but I didn't get to get totally into it."

"I was prepared to expose this man for what he is."

Instead, the two sides — Douglas included Las Vegas hotel-casino owner Steve Wynn — de-

cided Sunday to settle out of court. Attempts to reach King early Monday were fruitless.

Terms were not disclosed, but it is believed King and Atlantic City, New Jersey, hotel-casino owner Donald Trump, who claimed to have contractual rights through King for Douglas' fight with top contender Evander Holyfield, are to be paid a total of \$7 million.

In return, King won't have anything to do with the Douglas-Holyfield fight, tentatively set for Sept. 21 at Wynn's The Mirage hotel-casino. King will be the promoter of note for Douglas' rematch with former champion Mike Tyson that will follow next year at The Mirage, but he will have no ties with Douglas.

"A settlement by no means means admission of guilt, certainly not in this case," Douglas said. "It's just a thing of getting on with life and getting all of this behind us."

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Yachting grand prix begins in Scotland

LONDON (AP) — An international formula one class world yachting grand prix will begin in Scotland in August next year before sweeping across the globe with \$1 million prize money at stake, organisers said Monday. The first series of races, open only to identical high-tech yachts, will be held in the Firth of Clyde near Glasgow, said John Mitchell, director of Challenge Group, which is organising the British leg. Although other venues and dates are yet to be finalised, the grand prix will swing through Europe in September 1991, the United States the following month, Japan in November and will finish in Australia in January 1992. The British organisers said it was hoped Long Beach, California, would be the U.S. venue. "The series has everything — excitement, action and speed," Mitchell said. "For the first time, identical yachts with the latest high-tech specifications, world-class skippers and race-honed crews will battle it out on the oceans of the world to decide the ultimate champion."

Kenyans bound for Goodwill Games

NAIROBI (R) — Four Olympic gold medalists are in a nine-strong Kenyan team for the Goodwill Games. The squad, announced by the Kenya Amateur Athletic Association, includes Paul Ereng (800 metres), Peter Rono (1,500 metres), Julius Kariuki (3,000 metres steeplechase) and John Ngugi (5,000 metres). Also named is Peter Koech, silver medalist at the 1988 Seoul Olympics and 3,000 metres steeplechase world record holder. The goodwill games open in Seattle Friday and last until Aug. 5.

Cameroun's Makanaky signs for Malaga

MADRID (R) — Cameroun World Cup midfielder Cyrille Makanaky has signed a three-year contract with Malaga in the Spanish second division, a club spokesman said Monday. He gave no details of the cost of the transfer of 25-year-old Makanaky from French second division side Toulon to Malaga, relegated from the first division last season. Makanaky was one of the star players in the Cameroun team which upset holders Argentina in the opening match of the World Cup finals. They later became the first African side to reach the quarter-finals.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HIRSHCH
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LOOK FOR A MIRACLE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 9 7 5 3
♥ A K Q 6 2
♦ Q 3
♣ Q 6

WEST
♠ Q J 10
♥ J 9 4
♦ K J 8 7
♣ K 10 7

EAST
♠ 8
♥ 10 8 7 3
♦ 10 9 6
♣ J 9 5 4 2

SOUTH
♠ A K 6 4 2
♥ 5
♦ A 7 5 2
♣ A 8 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
6 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠
Don't abandon the ship just because the chances of avoiding a wreck are one in a hundred. You never know—every long shot has its day!

The bidding was short and rather aggressive. However, this hand is from a Swiss Team match, and South judged that a big swing was needed to reverse some earlier misfortunes. Thus, the blast into ♠ spade slam had more to gain than to

lose. West's trump lead made it look like the best chance for the contract—a 2-2 spade break—would gang aley, and so it proved when East discarded a club on the second round of trumps. After considerable thought, declarer found a combination of cards that would allow the slam to sail safely into port. It would not take much—West had to hold exactly three hearts and both minor-suit kings!

Declarer cashed the ace and king of hearts, shuffling a diamond from hand, then ruffed a heart. Next, he threw West in with a trump.

The first lucky break occurred when West did not turn up with the outstanding heart as a safe exit. Declarer played the queen from dummy and muttered a silent prayer. All was well. The queen of diamonds held, providing declarer with the entry to cash the club discards from hand. All that remained was to cash the ace of diamonds and ruff the diamond loser in dummy and 12 tricks were in the bag.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY JULY 17, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll, Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You can see clearly ahead today just what to do in order to make your arrangements where both personal desires and property holdings are concerned. Think in terms of the most productive plan.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You would certainly be intelligent today to listen to those of considerable experience and get the benefit of their experience with no heavy commitment.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Avoid secret scheming and be forthright and practical with those you have known for some time as well as being with loyal supporters.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You need to get off alone and study plans for the future in conjunction with intimate advisors who can steer you on the right course.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Consider well what a calculating associate and some friendly experts advise you in ways to gain more of the things you like the best.

LEO (July 22 to August 21) This is your day to pay attention to what both those who have any control over your worldly affairs or with whom you labour side-by-side have to suggest.

VIRGO (August 22 to September 22) Newcomers and creative associates have all kinds of good

ideas for you to be able to get a fresh new start at whatever you desire of a mundane nature.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A member of your own family and a financial expert have some very down to earth course for you to follow that can bring you added prosperity.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Communication between outside money persons and a casual contact can bring to light plans for you to gain more prestige in outside world.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Consider all aspects of details of your work by which you can over on a period of time be able to cash in on and have benefits flow.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 20) A very good day to organize your budget for the recreation and entertainment that you like you can have more pleasure in the future.

AQUARIUS (January 21 to February 19) Think about what you can do to find with your own household in a confidential conversation advanced ways by which to cut down on your expenses.

PISCES (February 20 to March 20) Your need for information about daily routines depends upon getting a long time friend to let in on that persons source for this result.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"You don't kiss me enough to keep your lips in shape — you've got a pooped pucker!"

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME. By Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LODEY
KYWAG
CROUTY
OSOYUJ

PUT THIS ON A HORSE THAT'S EXPECTED TO WIN.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: A

Saturday's Jumbles: CHASM MINCE DISMAY POETIC

Answer: They do like each other—MIMICS

THE Daily Crossword by Virginia Yates

ACROSS
1 Drink much
5 Swabs
9 Certain key
14 On the — (sler)
15 Unique
16 Gettysburg general
17 Cagney's feat
19 Award
20 Cosset
21 Down under
22 Associated
23 Conductor
24 George
25 Harder var.
27 Takes steps
29 Wellhead
33 Substitute at the plate
37 "La Coc" —
38 Slaughter
39 Little one
40 Aching
41 Drop a pop-up
42 Bunter's play
43 Fog
48 Urgent
49 Social asset
51 Burdened
54 Phony
57 Social asset
59 "Go to —"
61 Attain
62 Easy wins
64 Shoe size
65 Garfield's cohort
66 Humorous
67 Mortimer the dummy
68 Gymnast's alms
69 Half-of-Famer e.g.
DOWN
1 Recipe emt.
2 Joyce
3 Planet
4 Brownie
5 — Goes to Washington
6 Honolulu's tale
7 Literary form
8 Coteries
9 Ruler
10 Weasel
11 Deposited
12 Tool shed item
13 — off (angry)
16 Retrieve
22 Humorous
24 Reins
26 Cleared
28 Exorcises
30 Hero
31 Shone third
32 Deck's three
33 Chirp
34 Concerning
35 Asia's mistress
36 Stub victim
40 Bowled along
42 Modified
43 Shearer of old
44 Zeroes
45 Calliope's sister
47 Typewriter key
50 Chopin piece
52 VCR word
53 Shearer of old
54 See marks
55 Check
56 All there
58 A — apple
59 Flanagarian
60 Flanagarian
61 Flanagarian
62 Flanagarian
63 Flanagarian
64 Flanagarian
65 Flanagarian
66 Flanagarian
67 Flanagarian
68 Flanagarian
69 Flanagarian

SILVERSTONE, England (R) — They did not know whether to dance or mourn in the Ferrari garages at Silverstone Sunday night when the Italian team's hour of triumph was unexpectedly interrupted by news of Nigel Mansell's retirement.

Alain Prost's British Grand Prix victory, the Frenchman's third in succession for Ferrari and record 43rd of his career, had hoisted him to the top of the standings in the World Drivers' Championship at the half-way point in the season.

Prost now has 41 points while his bitter rival Brazilian Ayrton Senna, driving a McLaren, has 39.

The defending world champion's win also moved the Maranello-based team to within 10 points of their great rivals McLaren in the constructors' standings.

But the stirring evidence of Ferrari's re-emergence as the top team in formula one was overshadowed when Briton Mansell, who had started in pole position for the second successive week for Ferrari, said he was quitting at the end of the year.

Mansell's team mates, friends and rivals joined together in hoping he would reconsider his retirement.

But after considering and re-



Alain Prost makes it three in a row

jecting offers believed to be worth more than \$10 million to race for one more year, it seems certain Mansell will make the Australian Grand Prix in Adelaide on Nov. 4 his last.

The 36-year-old Briton, a win-

ner of 15 of his 141 Grands Prix, said he has chosen to put his wife Roseanne and three children first for the first time in his life.

"I look forward to another eight races and I can say that right at this minute Adelaide will be last race," said Mansell.

In the aftermath of the announcement and Prost's triumph, when a hugely disappointed Mansell had been forced to retire with gearbox failure, there was a buzz of excitement and speculation. Several new questions arose.

Firstly, Prost's supremacy and Mansell's role clearly indicated that Ferrari are out-performing McLaren in all areas.

In the last three races in Mexico, France and Britain, they have outpointed them 15-4, 9-6 and 9-4 respectively to close the gap between them from 29 points to 10. Why?

Before Silverstone, Senna said he felt Ferrari had had the best chassis since early last year and this season had proved they also had the best engine and greatest reliability.

With a new modified but more powerful version of their V-12 engine — currently only used in qualifying — due to be raced shortly, Ferrari look set to stay on top unless McLaren revise their schedule and introduce earlier than expected Honda's long-

awaited V-12 unit as a replacement for their present V-10.

Secondly, now that Mansell has announced his future plans, who will take his place at Ferrari?

The hottest tip is Frenchman Jean Alesi, 26, a friend of Prost, who has shown with Tyrrell in the last year that he has the potential to be a future champion.

Alesi is of Sicilian parentage and speaks perfect Italian and so he would have none of the language difficulties which led to Mansell's increasing sense of bewilderment at Ferrari.

Furthermore, Alesi would be prepared to accept number two status behind Prost and so solve for Ferrari their difficulties in retaining both Prost and Mansell in the same stable.

But Ferrari's courtship of Senna could yet turn serious and his arrival would almost certainly mean Prost's exit.

Senna has yet to agree a new deal with McLaren for next year and has been connected with Ferrari for several weeks.

On Sunday night, he was seen talking to Ferrari team-manager Cesare Fiorio after the race.

With new engines on the way for Ferrari, McLaren, Williams and Benetton — whose latest Ford power-unit powered Brazilian Nelson Piquet to a good fifth place Sunday — a wide-open and thrilling second-half of the season is in prospect.



Nigel Mansell

Australia destines sheep to bullets

CANBERRA (R) — Millions of Australian sheep will have to be shot because of a drop in demand for wool, loss of meat markets and lack of rain, farmers and officials say.

The slaughter of several million animals is being planned to reduce Australia's sheep population, estimated officially at 170 million and unofficially at 190 million.

Farmers have said that 10 per cent of the flock might have to be killed.

"That's an exaggeration. There aren't 19 million bullets in Australia," said David Coombes, a spokesman for the Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation.

Pits are being dug to receive the carcasses of one million sheep in Western Australia where an unseasonably dry spell has left the state's 39 million sheep with very little grass.

A recent sale of 20,000 mostly

old sheep there fetched 10 to 80 cents (eight to 64 U.S. cents) an animal. There were no bids for 2,000 animals, which are expected to be shot.

"Only sheep of very good quality are worth bringing to market," said Glen Thompson, a director of the West Australian Farmers Federation.

"Poor demand for wool and mutton, dry weather and loss of live sheep markets in the Middle East — these factors have left humane killing the only option," he said by telephone.

"It costs farmers 10 dollars (\$9.50) for each sheep to be processed by an abattoir. We can't give it (meat) away as aid because poor countries don't have proper refrigeration and the meat goes off."

Other states have had better weather but Coombes said it was inevitable farmers elsewhere would cull their flocks.

"We have been warning for a long time that Australia has too many sheep," he said in an interview, estimating the flock at 190 million because official statistics do not include smallholdings.

Farming organisations around Australia are arranging for local councils to dig pits, where sheep will be taken to be shot in the head by department of agriculture officials. Most farmers can't bear to shoot their own sheep.

Most of the sheep being killed are five to seven years old, too tough and light for market and past their best for wool, which is suffering from a slump in worldwide demand.

Due to the slump in demand Australia cut the floor price of wool, riding high 18 months ago, from 870 cents (680 U.S. cents) to 700 cents (540 U.S. cents) a kilogramme (2.2 lbs) from July 1 to help clear its record unsold

stockpile of three million bales. Saudi Arabia, which traditionally takes half the seven million live sheep Australia sends annually to the Middle East, has been rejecting sheep on the grounds of age and disease.

Australia has now drawn up stricter health controls and will not export live sheep above three years of age, closing an option for farmers trying to offload old sheep.

Australia is returning to concentrating on the quality market for lamb and producing younger more tender mutton. But for the older sheep the prospects are grim.

"It seems there really isn't any alternative but the bullet, although we believe the industry must urgently explore alternatives," said Hugh Wirth, president of Australia's Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Housing costs push up inflation in Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's consumer price index rose 0.7 per cent in June, mostly due to a rapid increase in housing costs, the government has announced.

The rise in the index, which measures price changes in a fixed market basket of goods and services, was much less than the 1.6 per cent increase in May.

The Central Bureau of Statistics said that last month, a 2.9 per cent rise in housing costs was accountable for most of the overall index's rise.

"The index mostly reflects the continuing increase in the housing prices, balanced by a seasonal decrease in the prices of vegetables and fruits," Rahamim Uzan, head of the bureau's prices division, said on Israel Army Radio.

Housing prices have been pushed up by a shortage caused by an influx of Soviet Jews to Israel, expected to reach up to 150,000 this year.

"Every month, the increase in housing prices is almost double the rate of inflation," said Yisrael Kessar, head of Histadrut, Israel's trade union federation. "We have proposed to put housing prices under (government) control and create a lot of housing starts."

Kessar also attacked the government for approving an emergency plan to import 3,000 prefabricated houses instead of ordering them in Israel and thus easing unemployment.

Dov Lautmann, head of the manufacturers' association, warned in a statement that the Israeli economy may face an "earthquake" unless the government deals with the country's unemployment rate of more than nine per cent.

Move prompted by external reasons

Jordanians discuss formula to reshape Al Mashrek Bank

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Moves are under way to Jordanise the ownership of the branches of Lebanon's Al Mashrek Bank in the Kingdom, and banking circles expect the process to be completed in two months' time.

"The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) has already given the green signal for transforming Al Mashrek into a Jordanian bank," said a well-informed banking source. "Discussions over how to work out a formula for the process are continuing."

Al Mashrek, despite its relatively small size of operations in the Kingdom and reports of trouble at its headquarters, enjoys a good reputation as a "strong bank" in Jordan. The move to Jordanise it was prompted "by external reasons related to the problems at its Lebanon headquarters, and had very little to do with its management or operations in Jordan," according to a leading banking figure, who is involved in the negotiations with the CBJ along with a group of companies and individuals, including many customers of the bank.

The operations of Al Mashrek in Jordan came under CBJ supervision in October 1989, nine months after serious liquidity problems hit its headquarters in Beirut and the Lebanese central bank stepped in to bail it out. Since then, many branches of the bank outside Lebanon have been closed down, but the Jordanian branches continued functioning without disruption under supervision from the CBJ.

Proposals being contemplated call for a new company to be set up with a JD 5 million paid-up capital and a reserve of JD 5 million to take over the Al Mashrek wing in Jordan and run it as an independent Jordanian bank under a new name but with no change whatsoever in its present operations except that a new board of directors will be elected, informed sources said.

The operating licence of the bank will continue to be effective, since the CBJ has said that it would not licence any new bank in Jordan and that it prefers to limit the number of banks operating in the Kingdom by encouraging mergers.

"Business will remain as usual," commented one of the sources. "It will have the same branches and staff, and there will be no impact of the change of ownership on its operations or accounts. Quite simply, it will cease to be a Lebanese-owned bank and will be a strictly Jordanian entity."

The local management of Al Mashrek maintains a head office and branch at Shmeisani in addition to three other branches in Amman and employs about 100 people. The assets of the bank, which has a paid-up capital of JD 5 million (the minimum set under CBJ regulations), are estimated at JD 38 million.

Businessmen and banking circles are unanimous that Al Mashrek's situation in Jordan is strong and the necessity to change its formal status in the Kingdom was created by developments at its headquarters in Beirut, where trouble surfaced in December 1988/January 1989 when it was unable to meet depositors' demands.

Subsequent intervention by the Lebanese central bank froze immediate problems, but it soon became apparent that the bank was in real trouble. Then, the Lebanese central bank, which remains strong in terms of reserves despite 16 years of civil war in the country, took over the affairs of the bank. Several other banking institutions owned by Al Mashrek's former chairman and directors were also liquidated or in the process of liquidation.

Reports from the Lebanese capital speak of "mismanagement" at Al Mashrek's headquarters under its previous board of directors and the problems there were further compounded by civil strife.

As news spread that Al Mashrek was in financial straits, there was a run on the bank's branches in Jordan in early 1989. But the situation was contained by the local management with help from the CBJ. Some other branches of the bank in the Gulf and elsewhere were not so fortunate.

A retired banker said there was very little fear of a recurrence of the run on the bank in Jordan. "The very fact that Al Mashrek could withstand the run in 1989, and still survive and operate with-

out any disruption is an indication of its strength," he said. "Now, its clients know that the bank's operations in Jordan are strong and they would not lose their money."

The main element in the expected change of ownership of the bank's branches in Jordan is "how to bring about a total and complete formal separation from its mother bank in Lebanon," said another businessman involved in the ongoing negotiations on the future of the bank.

"The process has to be carried out under international banking codes and ethics, and the central bank has to bear the major burden of this responsibility," the businessman added, speaking to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity.

Although not warranted by local developments, the expected change at Al Mashrek is the latest in a series of measures undertaken by the CBJ to streamline banking in Jordan after the upheavals in the industry following the dramatic take-over by the Economic Security Committee (ESC) of Petra Bank and the Jordan Gulf Bank in August 1989.

The committee has now ordered the liquidation of Petra Bank; a possible merger between the Jordan Gulf Bank with the Syrian Jordanian Bank is in the offing, and a new investment and export promotion bank will be set up after the affairs of Petra Bank are wound up.

To crown its moves, the CBJ has also forwarded to the government a set of draft laws to govern all banking activities in the Kingdom. Very little detail of the draft legislation is available but a senior banker expected the laws to be aimed at "a much-needed sweeping overhaul of the entire banking system in the country."

According to an informed source, the proposed legislation includes provisions for closer monitoring and scrutiny of banking operations, clearing the way for CBJ intervention before "public interests are harmed as was the case with Petra Bank."

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Tunisia to slaughter 750,000 chickens

TUNIS (R) — The Tunisian government, to save prices from collapsing on the local market, has decided to slaughter 750,000 chickens ordered by an Algerian who cancelled the deal, officials sources have said. Agriculture Minister Nouri Zergati told a delegation of worried chicken farmers that the government would kill the chickens and put them in cold storage, they said. The farmers gave the government an ultimatum to find a solution to the crisis within a week. Some had threatened to release thousands of chickens in the streets of Tunis. An Algerian businessman, who was not named, had ordered a total of 3.5 million broilers and Tunisian farmers had stepped up production to meet the demand, chicken farming sources said. They gave no explanation for the cancellation of the order.

Hungary raises petrol, spirit prices

BUDAPEST (R) — Hungary has increased consumption taxes on fuel, cigarettes and liquor by at least 20 per cent in what newspapers termed the first post-communist price rises. Dubbed the "first democratic price hikes" by the Hungarian media, they were aimed at cutting Hungary's budget deficit which is running ahead of a limit set by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The budget deficit is 21.5 billion forints (\$331 million), well above a 10 billion forint (\$154 million) limit set as one precondition for IMF support. Petrol prices went up by an average 20 per cent but to symbolise growing environmental concerns the unleaded kind is no longer the most expensive type of fuel. Motorists will now pay 37.50 forints (58 cents) for a litre of 98 octane petrol compared with 37 forints (57 cents) for unleaded.

Iran signs deals with Muslim Soviets

NICOSIA (R) — Islamic Iran has signed deals with four Muslim-populated Soviet republics to trade cars, textiles and other goods, the Iranian news agency IRNA has said. The barter accords were signed by a delegation from Iran's northeastern Khorassan province which visited Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Turkmenia and Uzbekistan recently. IRNA quoted the head of the delegation, Mohammad Hassan Solhousht, as saying the agreements included exchange of construction materials, cars and spare parts, textiles and machinery for food industries.

Conable suggests ways to cut number of poor

WASHINGTON (R) — As the cold war fades and the need for vast military machines recedes, the industrial countries should redouble their efforts to fight global poverty, the World Bank said Sunday.

"It is inexcusable that the amount of aid from the industrial countries is stagnating," World Bank President Barber Conable said, adding, "as their economies continue to prosper and the cold war wanes, developed countries can afford more aid."

He said if developed countries cut their military spending by a mere 10 per cent they could double their aid.

Conable, speaking with reporters, introduced the bank's World Development Report, which discusses a two-pronged approach that countries should take in attacking poverty.

"Development means little if its companion is not declining poverty," Conable said.

The report said that more than one billion people — at least one quarter of the global population — live on less than \$370 a year.

It recommended that countries move to provide more jobs for their very poorest inhabitants, while generating health services and education that give them the strength and the preparation to take advantage of these opportunities.

"The first part promotes the productive use of the poor's most abundant resource — their labour," the report said.

The second, the bank explained, calls for providing the poor with improved health care, family planning, nutrition and primary education.

"Improved health and education would attack both the causes and the consequences of poverty," the report said.

At the same time, it said that any aid from the outside should be targeted to countries that are committed to dealing with poverty.

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AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Monday, July 16, 1990
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell		Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	664.0	668.0	French franc	119.3	120.0
Pound Sterling	1186.7	1193.8	Japanese yen (for 100)	447.6	450.3
Deutschmark	402.2	402.6	Dutch guilder	355.0	357.1
Swiss franc	471.1	473.9	Swedish crown	110.5	111.3
			Italian lire (for 100)	54.7	55.0
			Belgian franc (for 10)	194.9	196.1

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.7960/70	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.1595/1605	Canadian dollar	
	1.6575/80	Deutschmarks	
	1.8680/90	Dutch guilders	
	1.4105/15	Swiss francs	
	34.08/13	Belgian francs	
	5.5510/60	French francs	
	1213/1214	Italian lire	
	148-20/30	Japanese yen	
	5.9925/75	Swedish crowns	
	6.3425/75	Norwegian crowns	
	6.3000/55	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	362.00/40	U.S. dollars	

Nigerians back call for debt relief

LAGOS (R) — Nigerian industrialists are hoping the Lagos government can win a reprieve on some debt to free cash for local production when Finance Minister Olu Falae meets bank creditors in London Tuesday.

"Foreign debt is a major problem facing the economy," Oladapo Fafowura, managing director of the manufacturers' association, told Reuters.

The servicing of Nigeria's estimated \$32 billion debt is denying the country desperately needed funds to revive its battered economy, he said.

The Nigerian government this year earmarked 51 per cent of its export earnings, mainly from oil sales, to debt servicing.

Finance Minister Falae has said debt service obligations falling due this year were unsustainable at close to 70 per cent of earnings. In May, Nigeria unilaterally reduced to three per cent from 9.5 the interest it pays on almost \$6 billion of rescheduled debt to commercial banks.

Nigeria wants all its debt consolidated into dollars at three per cent interest with repayments

spread over 30 years. Falae is expected Tuesday to discuss a counter-proposal from commercial bankers that offers four options.

Details have not been made public, but U.S. bankers said the options include debt repurchasing, yet another rescheduling over 25 years, and conversion to principal reduction or lower-interest bonds.

Nigeria, currently negotiating with the International Monetary Fund for the renewal of a standby credit facility which expired in April, expects to reopen talks in September with the Paris Club of creditor governments holding about half its foreign debt.

Manufacturers' leader Fafowura said that unless sub-Saharan Africa's biggest economy — and biggest debtor — is given sufficient breathing space to grow it would never be able to meet its obligations.

The country requires an inflow of new foreign investment to support its four-year-old IMF-backed economic reforms, rather than a net outflow of resources as now, he said.

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PHILADELPHIA

Shirley MacLaine in **MADAME SOUSATZKA**

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 675571

NIJOUN

Amro Thlab and Madiha Kamel in **THE DEMONS** (Arabic)

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

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PLAZA

Amro Thlab and Madiha Kamel in **THE DEMONS** (Arabic)

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Tamil rebels overrun army camp Sri Lankan forces begin new offensive

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan security forces have launched a fresh offensive in the north against Tamil guerrillas fighting for an independent state, a minister said Monday.

Deputy Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne said the new drive began at the weekend after security forces virtually completed operations against rebels in the eastern sector, where only mopping up remains.

Wijeratne said a senior military officer with experience in battles against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), Major General Denzil Kobbekaduwa, had been appointed overall commander of the offensive in the north.

Kobbekaduwa was put in charge of anti-guerrilla operations in the east soon after the Tigers, who are fighting to form a separate state for the Tamil minority, began their latest wave of strikes against military bases and police stations on June 11.

Wijeratne said some of the troops who fought with Kobbekaduwa in the east had been sent to reinforce detachments in the north, where the Tigers are stronger and mounting stiffer resistance.

He said the focus of the fresh offensive was in the Vavuniya,

Kilinochchi and Mannar districts, where the Tigers have been pounding army camps with rocket-propelled grenades, mortar bombs and small-arms fire over the past five weeks.

Military sources said the troops would be backed by artillery and given cover by aircraft and helicopters.

The Defence Ministry secretary, General Cyril Ranatunga, said 244 soldiers and 289 policemen had been killed in the five-week-old war. Unofficial estimates place the death toll among the Tigers at about 500, bringing the total deaths, including civilians, to about 1,100.

He also said 391 of the 680 policemen captured by the Tigers when they overran 30 police stations in the first wave of attacks were still missing and presumed dead.

The new drive was launched hours after the Tigers overran an army camp guarding a state television relay station in Kokavil in the north.

Wijeratne said 48 of the 50 soldiers in the unit were killed in

the four-day battle for Kokavil after their commander decided to fight rather than carry out a pre-planned withdrawal.

"That's bravery, but you must live to fight another day," he told a news conference.

A government statement said 37 Tigers were also killed at Kokavil. In a statement issued from their London office, the Tigers said 46 soldiers and 18 Tigers, including six women, were killed in the battle.

Some of the wounded soldiers were thrown by women Tigers into a fire started when a rebel mortar ignited a fuel dump in the camp, Ranatunga said. There was no independent confirmation of this.

Wijeratne said security forces, after a fierce battle, recaptured a police station at Mankulam in the north and secured the perimeter of an army camp there.

He said the government had information the Tigers had killed 60 Muslims Friday after ambushing three lorries and two buses in which they were travelling in eastern Batticaloa. Some of the Muslims were returning home after a pilgrimage to Mecca.

The minister said the other Muslims were still being held by the Tigers, who were demanding a ransom for their release.

Few have high hopes for talks on Kashmir

ISLAMABAD (R) — India and Pakistan open talks this week aimed at soothing fears of another war over Kashmir, but diplomats say both sides appear to be digging in their heels on the central issues of the dispute.

Indian Foreign Secretary Muchkund Dubey will arrive Tuesday and meet his Pakistani counterpart Tanvir Ahmad Khan on July 18 and 19 for talks.

The meeting will have no specific agenda, but officials in Islamabad said the Muslim revolt in Indian-held Kashmir will be the principal issue on the table.

"One shouldn't be looking for anything substantial out of (the talks)," one Western diplomat said. "We might see movement on some subsidiary issues, such as troop deployment or contacts between the two sides."

The fragile relationship between Pakistan and India has been plunged into crisis this year as the two sides trade accusations over Kashmir, where Muslim militants have stepped up a bloody guerrilla campaign to end Indian rule.

This year's violence has killed more than 700 people and New Delhi this month gave police and army troops in the area sweeping new powers, including shoot-to-kill orders.

The two countries have fought two wars over Kashmir since their independence from Britain in 1947. That year, their first war left one-third of Kashmir under Pakistani control, and the state remains divided along a heavily patrolled border.

New Delhi has accused Pakistan of whipping up the revolt by arming and training the militants on its side of the border, a charge Pakistan denies.

Islamabad in turn has accused India of reneging on an agreement to allow Kashmir's predominantly Muslim inhabitants to choose in a U.N.-mandated plebiscite whether to join Hindu-majority India or Islamic Pakistan.

While tensions have eased since April, when both sides moved troops into forward positions, diplomats said they see little willingness to compromise by either government, both of which are under strong domestic pressure to stay tough on the issue.

Indian Prime Minister V.P. Singh, whose minority government depends in part on conservative Hindu fundamentalists, cannot afford to seem weak, political analysts said.

His government continues to charge Pakistan with supporting terrorism in Kashmir, and on July 5 declared much of the state a "disturbed area."

Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, meanwhile, has held firm on Kashmir in hopes of bolstering flagging domestic confidence in her leadership abilities, political observers added.

"The Kashmir issue gets a very strong gut reaction from Pakistanis," said Mushahid Hussain, a former journalist who now researches public opinion.

67 killed in Philippine quake

MANILA (R) — Thirty students were crushed to death in their classrooms, at least 37 others died and dozens were injured when buildings crumbled in a powerful earthquake that rocked Manila and the northern Philippines Monday.

Many more students were thought to be buried in the rubble of the five-storey college building in Cabanatuan, 90 kilometres north of Manila, which was at the epicentre of the quake.

In the mountain resort city of Baguio, part of the luxury Hyatt Hotel collapsed, injuring dozens of people, including foreigners, a Manila radio station reported.

A reporter for the DZRH station said in a radio link-up many guests and employees were trapped at the Hyatt and two other hotels when walls fell in.

"Hospitals are filled, most of them foreigners who were injured," the reporter said. At least 34 others, including three children, died when buildings caved in across the country, police and rescue workers said.

The quake measured 7.7 on the open-ended Richter Scale and lasted 45 seconds.

The earthquake opened cracks in offices and apartment blocks in

Manila, setting off fires and sending thousands of terrified workers pouring into the streets.

Two people, including a 52-year-old woman, died from heart attacks in Manila as the quake rocked buildings; and a man fell to his death from a high rise apartment, hospitals said.

Rescue workers were digging through the rubble of the Philippine Christian College in Cabanatuan, searching for more bodies.

"Four floors collapsed while students were having classes," said Jofito Gonzalez, civil defence administrator in the area. "I think many more are buried inside. I think by tomorrow morning we'll know many more are dead."

An official of the Office of Civil Defence said in Manila about 250 students and staff were believed to be in the college. Dozens of students were injured.

"People didn't know where to go. They rushed out of buildings and suddenly the power went off," the official said.

In San Jose, a nearby town in Nueva Ecija province, the mayor's office reported at least nine people killed when three buildings collapsed. Three children died when an elementary

school caved in on top of them in another Nueva Ecija town.

The Red Cross said six were killed when a cinema collapsed in Pangasinan province.

In Manila, dozens of people were injured in stampedes and by flying glass and debris, police and hospitals said.

At least 16 people were hurt when a cinema audience panicked and rushed for the exits as part of the roof fell in.

Patients in one Manila hospital ran out into the street carrying their intravenous drips. Many recited prayers.

Thousands of people poured onto the streets of Manila's Makati financial district as the quake struck at 4:30 p.m. (0730 GMT) and buildings swayed. Cars bounced around on the street as tremors shook the city.

The seismological bureau warned of a possible tidal wave following the quake.

"Please be vigilant and prepared for aftershocks," Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos said in a radio interview. "There is no need to panic. The authorities are on the job."

President Corason Aquino suspended all school classes, and mobilised relief agencies, saying further tremors were expected.



U.S. airmen can wear earrings

BONN (R) — U.S. airmen in West Germany can now wear earrings but only when off duty. The air force has reversed a 1985 ruling that prohibited male personnel from wearing earrings off duty, Stars and Stripes, the unofficial newspaper for the American Armed Forces, said Monday. They are still banned from wearing earrings while in uniform, although air force women may wear jewellery both on or off duty, the paper said.

Rose Kennedy celebrates 100th birthday

HYANNISPORT, Massachusetts (R) — Three generations wished a happy 100th birthday Sunday — a week early — to Rose Kennedy, matriarch of America's most famous political family. Some 350 guests attended the birthday tribute to the woman who saw two of her politically powerful sons die at the hands of assassins — President John F. Kennedy in 1963 and his brother Senator Robert F. Kennedy of New York in 1968. Edward Kennedy, a U.S. senator from Massachusetts and Mrs. Kennedy's youngest child and only surviving son, was scheduled to deliver a tribute to his mother. Mrs. Kennedy, confined to her bed on the compound after a series of strokes, did not take part in the proceedings at the Kennedy family compound in this exclusive seaside Cape Cod town. But earlier she attended a mass with some of her four living children, 28 grandchildren and 22 great grandchildren. Though the skies were cloudy, spirits were high as Senator Kennedy's sister Eunice Shriver, her daughter Maria Shriver, a television journalist, and Maria's husband, actor Arnold Schwarzenegger — their newborn daughter in his arms — welcomed guests to the bash. "All of us are inspired by mother, who is 100 years young today, and whose influence and importance in our family grows every year," said Senator Kennedy in the toast prepared for delivery. "And to see this inspiration reflected in the extraordinary, innovative, creative and touching programmes that the grandchildren are involved in are I think mother's greatest birthday present."

Mrs. Kennedy's actual birthday is on July 22 and will be celebrated with a private affair.

90-year-old climbs the Matterhorn
ZERMATT, Switzerland (AP) — A 90-year-old Swiss guide reached the peak of the Matterhorn, exactly 125 years after the first ascent of the mountain. Ulrich Inderbinen, the oldest person ever to scale the distinctive pyramid-shaped summit, took only nine hours to complete the remarkable outward and return journey, said Zermatt resort director Amade Perregé. Inderbinen last climbed the 4,477-metre peak in 1962. However he continues his work as a mountain guide on less tricky Alpine slopes in this southern Swiss resort. "We have 29 mountains higher than 4,000 metres and he climbs such peaks with his guests every day," said Perregé. "Today, he is the oldest person ever to stand on the Matterhorn." Perregé said, "He's a phenomenon. It's unbelievable." Perregé said Inderbinen has no plans to retire and remained in excellent health. "His work is his life. He has been a mountain guide for 65 years," he said.

Jazz singer leaves hospital
THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Jazz great Ella Fitzgerald was released Saturday from a hospital after treatment for exhaustion and dehydration, and planned to return home, a hospital spokeswoman said. The Bronovo Hospital spokeswoman said Ms. Fitzgerald was released Saturday morning and was returning to her Los Angeles home. The spokeswoman declined to comment on the jazz singer's condition. Ms. Fitzgerald, 72, was rushed to Bronovo Hospital last Monday after falling ill in her hotel room. A friend and physician travelling with her, Dr. Clifford Booker, told the Associated Press that Ms. Fitzgerald had nearly recovered from her condition, but would need to cancel her entire European tour. Ms. Fitzgerald was billed as the headline act at this year's North Sea Jazz Festival here, which started Wednesday with a special concert in her honour. The tour also included appearances at music festivals in Montreux, Switzerland, and Antibes, France.

U.K. to probe leak of confidential memo

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's office launched a probe Monday into the leak of a confidential, high-level memorandum which listed German national characteristics as including "aggressiveness and bullying."

A report of the document was published by a Sunday newspaper only hours after Trade Secretary Nicholas Ridley resigned from the cabinet for causing an uproar with a string of fiercely anti-German comments in a magazine interview.

The memorandum, drawn up

by Thatcher foreign policy adviser Charles Powell, summarised a seminar held in March at the prime minister's country residence to brief her on how to deal with a united Germany.

The meeting was also attended by Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd and a group of American and British academics.

It was held the weekend before Thatcher met West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl in London and delivered a speech on Anglo-German relations.

The memorandum said German characteristics included

"angst, aggressiveness, bullying, egotism, inferiority complex, sentimentality."

It added that Germans were insensitive to their feelings towards others, obsessed with themselves, wanted to be liked and inclined to self-pity. But its main conclusion advised Thatcher to "be nice to the Germans."

Officials said the memorandum was highly restricted and circulated to only a few people in government departments, mainly the Foreign and Defence Ministries.

Bhutto expresses outrage over blasts that killed 40 in Sind

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto expressed outrage over a rash of bomb blasts Sunday which killed some 40 people in Sind province, where ethnic violence has put in question her government's ability to maintain order.

Bhutto, in Bahrain on the last leg of a visit to five Muslim countries, condemned the "gruesome act of sabotage" and called on authorities to treat those responsible "with an iron hand," the Pakistani News Agency (APP) said Monday.

She asked for a complete report on the incident when she returns to Islamabad Monday afternoon.

Political analysts said the violence, the first serious ethnic bloodshed in the troubled pro-

vince of Sind in almost a month, will increase pressure on Bhutto to allow the army greater leeway in enforcing order.

"It only strengthens the argument that if the military is to play a role, it should have greater authority," said Ijaz Gilani, director of the Pakistan Institute of Public Opinion.

No one has claimed responsibility for the blasts, which coincided with a protest strike called by a nationalist Sindhi group.

Five separate blasts ripped through crowded areas in the city of Hyderabad within about 30 minutes Sunday, killing at least 23 people and injuring more than 100.

Another bomb exploded in a moving railway carriage about 25 kilometres north of Hyderabad,

killing 15, hospital sources said.

Doctors in the city, the second largest in Sind, said the major hospital was so crowded with wounded that some operations had to be conducted in the halls.

Residents said that after the blasts, gunbattles erupted between groups of native Sindhis and Mohajirs, Muslims who emigrated to Pakistan from India when the sub-continent was divided in 1947.

Guns were fired from speeding cars, and local press reports said one group of people was fired upon as they gathered near the Bhittai Hospital in central Hyderabad hoping for news of the earlier victims.

There was no immediate word on casualties from the gunfights.

Indian Prime Minister V.P. Singh, whose minority government depends in part on conservative Hindu fundamentalists, cannot afford to seem weak, political analysts said.

His government continues to charge Pakistan with supporting terrorism in Kashmir, and on July 5 declared much of the state a "disturbed area."

Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, meanwhile, has held firm on Kashmir in hopes of bolstering flagging domestic confidence in her leadership abilities, political observers added.

"The Kashmir issue gets a very strong gut reaction from Pakistanis," said Mushahid Hussain, a former journalist who now researches public opinion.

South Korean opposition parties to resign from assembly en masse

SEOUL (AP) — Leaders of South Korea's parliamentary opposition said Monday they intend to resign en masse as they intensify efforts to oust President Roh Tae-woo's ruling party.

The planned resignations are to protest the government's alleged railroad of controversial bills through the parliament. Critics, including protesting broadcast workers and students, say the legislation is part of a government attempt to tighten its grip on the nation's news media.

Mass resignations could precipitate a crisis in domestic politics at a time the government is preparing for high-level unification talks between North and

South Korea.

A statement released by the leading opposition Party for Peace and Democracy said its 70 lawmakers will resign along with the eight members of the splinter Democratic Party. The statement said the timing had not been decided.

The mass resignations would be the first in modern Korean history and would leave the 299-member National Assembly with no opposition legislators.

"It is regrettable that the current National Assembly session has not been run smoothly," Roh said Monday. He blamed the opposition for "paralyzing the function of the parliament."

The two opposition political groups said talks are under way to merge their parties and combine efforts to overthrow Roh's Democratic Liberal Party.

Kim Young-Sam, a former opposition leader who merged his political group with the ruling party earlier this year, said at a news conference Monday that mass resignations from the National Assembly were "irresponsible."

Under Korean law, the speaker of the National Assembly can either accept the resignations or refer them to a parliamentary vote. The nation's one-house legislature has been dissolved three times by dictatorial governments, but there have not been mass resignations.

Cambodian rebels besiege provincial capitals, make major military gains

The Associated Press correspondent Nate Thayer spent five weeks with Cambodian guerrillas deep inside Cambodia. He was the first Western journalist to make such a journey during the 11-year-old war. The following is his report.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY 6. Cambodia (AP) — Guerrillas have seized hundreds of villages and military positions in northern Cambodia, forcing the army to fall back and defend besieged provincial capitals.

Evidence of the most significant guerrilla gains in more than 11 years of fighting was clear during a five-week trip with the insurgents that covered 450 miles (720 kilometres).

The three-party guerrilla coalition, which includes the Communist Khmer Rouge, controls large areas of the north and northwest. The insurgents are shelling and launching commando raids on key provincial capitals.

Senior guerrilla commanders say the attacks are preparations for full-scale assaults to seize Kompong Thom and Siem Reap, and the ancient temples of Angkor near Siem Reap.

Hundreds of government artillery shells and rockets landed daily, shaking the paddies of a beautiful rice-growing region engulfed by war.

Debris from bridges blown up by guerrillas littered highways. The jungle fighters set up ambushes to attack convoys trying to resupply forward government outposts defending the major urban areas.

Guerrilla medics trained in China ran field hospitals, dressing wounds and amputating limbs.

As the guerrillas advance, the world seeks a political solution and worries that the Khmer Rouge, whose bloody regime was overthrown by a Vietnamese invasion in December 1978, may regain power. More than a million Cambodians were killed or died of starvation during 3½ years of Khmer Rouge rule.

Khmer Rouge commanders expressed confidence they would capture Phnom Penh, the Cambodian capital. They used maps to illustrate encirclement from the north, south and west — similar to the strategy in 1975, when the Khmer Rouge defeated the U.S.-backed government of President Lon Nol.

The trip, with an escort of guerrillas loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, leader of the coalition, began on the Thai border and covered three northern provinces. Included was a 50-kilometre stretch of National Highway 6, a main government lifeline to outlying provinces, now in guerrilla hands.

It provided the first independent confirmation of claims by the guerrillas of advances deep inside the country.

Thousands of Sihanouk's guerrillas were seen lounging in vil-

lages, shopping in bustling markets and manning lines around Kompong Thom, which they said was their next target.

Kompong Thom, a strategic crossroads city, is 145 kilometres north of Phnom Penh.

In separate attacks, the Khmer Rouge was advancing toward Siem Reap, 320 kilometres northwest of Phnom Penh, and was within reach of the Angkor temples.

"We have taken all the positions around Siem Reap, isolating the town," said Ta Pok, a Khmer Rouge brigade commander interviewed at his jungle base north of the city.

"We will for sure take Siem Reap. It is no problem. We want it, it is one of our objectives and we will take it."

At Ta Pok's headquarters and on every day of the five-week trip, the earth shook from government artillery fire.

"We are winning everywhere we are fighting," said Col. Khan Savouen, a commander of forces loyal to Sihanouk, Cambodia's former ruler, at headquarters in Stoeneng, the de facto capital of what the Sihanoukists call their liberated zone.

In the war's early stages, most guerrillas were in bases along the Thai border and obtaining weapons from China was easy,

given Thailand's support for the insurgent.

Now the lines have shifted far from the frontier. The Sihanoukists and Khmer Rouge have forged a network of thousands of miles of secret roads and trails into the interior.

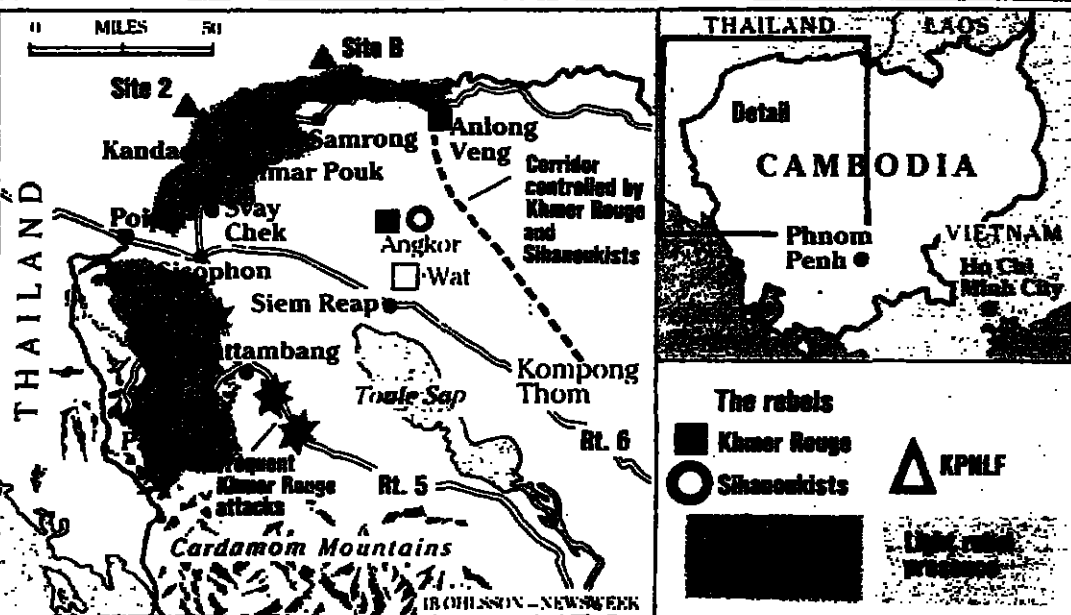
Convoys of trucks, oxcarts and thousands of civilian supporters were seen daily moving supplies from jungle caches to forward areas.

More than 50,000 insurgents are fighting an army that has superior firepower, but is mostly conscripts reported to be poorly trained. The guerrilla groups led by Sihanouk and Son Sam are non-Communist, but the Khmer Rouge is by far the strongest.

Convoys of Chinese-supplied trucks and captured government vehicles moved freely along sections of provincial highways that were under government control less than a year ago.

The war took a favourable turn for the guerrillas last fall, when Vietnam withdrew most of its soldiers, leaving the forces of Premier Hun Sen to face the battle-tested guerrillas alone.

"Sometimes I think Hun Sen is stupid. You know we don't need to negotiate with him now," said Mit Lot, Khmer Rouge deputy division commander at a base 20 kilometres from the Angkor Wat



ruins. "If they don't compromise, they will lose everything. At this rate the war will be over by the end of the year."

Although the Khmer Rouge is the most powerful force in the coalition, it seemed clear during the trip that the non-Communists had gained considerable support and scored some significant military victories.

The Khmer Rouge has little public support because of its history, and that hampers its effectiveness in more heavily populated areas.

Sihanouk's commanders described a raid by 400 commandos who briefly seized Kompong Thom in late June. They destroyed military positions and tested the waters for what guerril-

la field commanders said would be a full-scale attack on the provincial capital.

Heavy weapons could be seen in place less than five miles (eight kilometres) from the city and rockets were being fired at Kompong Thom.

The Sihanoukists claim to control more than 700 towns and villages. A major source of their strength appears to be widespread public support for Sihanouk, who was revered by many as a god-king during his reign.

Around Stoeneng, on Highway 6 less than a 30-minute drive from Kompong Thom, non-Communist control the largest area of Indochina since the Americans left 15 years ago.

Followers of Sihanouk have trained hundreds of civilian admi-

nistrators, teachers and medical personnel and begun an aggressive effort to re-establish Buddhism.

Thousands of children were seen attending primary schools. Dozens of Buddhist temples were being refurbished and others built.

While the Sihanoukists and Khmer Rouge are in a loose coalition, tension between the groups was evident.

"For the time being, we share common military goals with the Khmer Rouge, but we are in full control here," said Col. Khan Savouen, commander of the Kompong Thom area. "The Khmer Rouge understand strength, and we are very strong in Kompong Thom."